



イン・シヤー・アッラー

IN SHA'ALLAH
FROM EROICA WITH LOVE #6
by Yasuko Aoike

Trans. Kx.





A summer dawn
is worth a
million...

The blissful moment
of a morning doze
being surrounded by the
chirping of birds and
a gentle morning breeze...



Your brain'll melt if you sleep too much!!

Good moorning, m'lord!! Time to get up and shine!

The early bird gets the worms, my lord!!

The world's started its productive activities already!

Don't be so unproductive. It's already half past six!

I'm enjoying myself being absorbed in the esthetics of a morning doze right now.

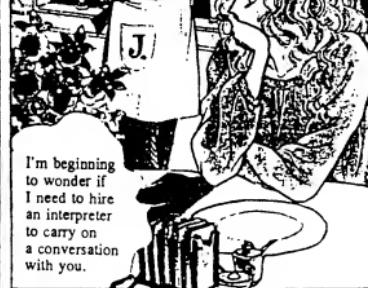
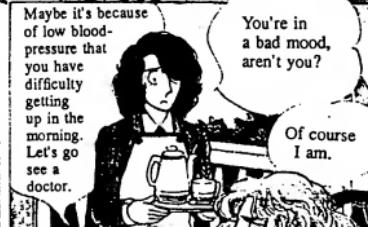
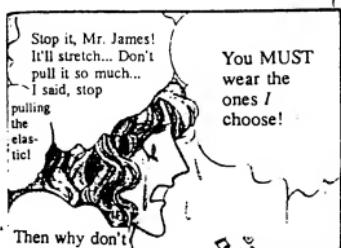
MY GOD !!!

Ahhh... M'lord! You really are...!

Oh my God... This is...

Wh... what? What are you staring at!!!





Let me hear the details, then.

You were just maaavelous at that East-West summit. We've seen it on the satellite broadcast. My dad's completely in love with you. You've got a fan here, baby.

Got a very juicy tale here
...

That's very nice. So, are you forming a fan club for me?

You know I tend to choose jobs according to my taste...

Nobody but I know of this in the Beirut underworld.

This is JUST the kind of a big job for a fanciful man like you, baby.

Eroica
an art collector aristocrat thief.

Earl
Dorian
Red Gloria
or

And then



The Major realizes
that YOU are
watching him!

Notice the
undershirt...



Major Klaus
Heinz von dem
Eberbach,
an officer
of NATO
Intelligence.

I believe it's because you are still wearing long-sleeved undershirts...

It feels hotter than usual this summer.

You don't need to say unnecessary things.

No, it is not
...

Are you blaming the summer heat on me?

I apologize.

Master, Herr Chief is on the telephone

to say, keep it clear and simple

Chief, I'd appreciate it if you didn't talk in your sleep. If you have something

Sorry to bother you this early... aaf...

Guten-morgen, Eberbach ...

Good morning, Master

Hm...

I'll hear
the details
at the
office.

I
see.

There's a
place I
want you
to fly to
imme-
diately.

...Uh...
Don't...
dear,
please,
stop...

What's this?
You're
waking me
up...

Don't get
mad at
such an
early
hour.

I was
informed
just now
myself,
and...

Yes,
Master.

I'll be away
for a while.
Keep things
running here.

...No,
Master
...

Were you
sent here
from the
Communi-
st?

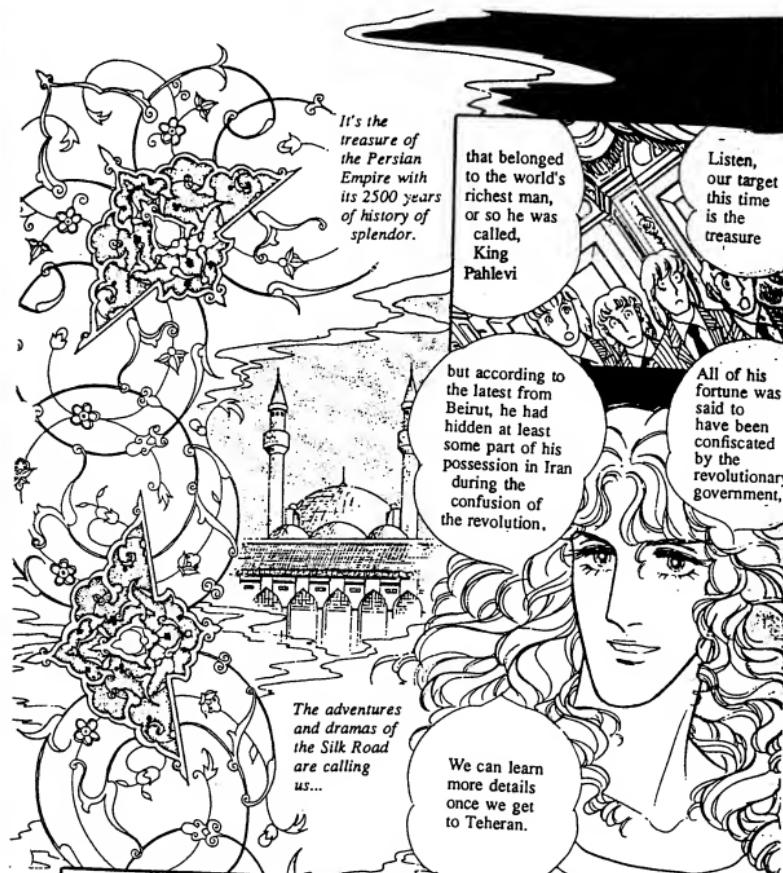
I'll switch to
half-sleeve
undershirts.
Prepare them
immediately.

clack
clack
clack

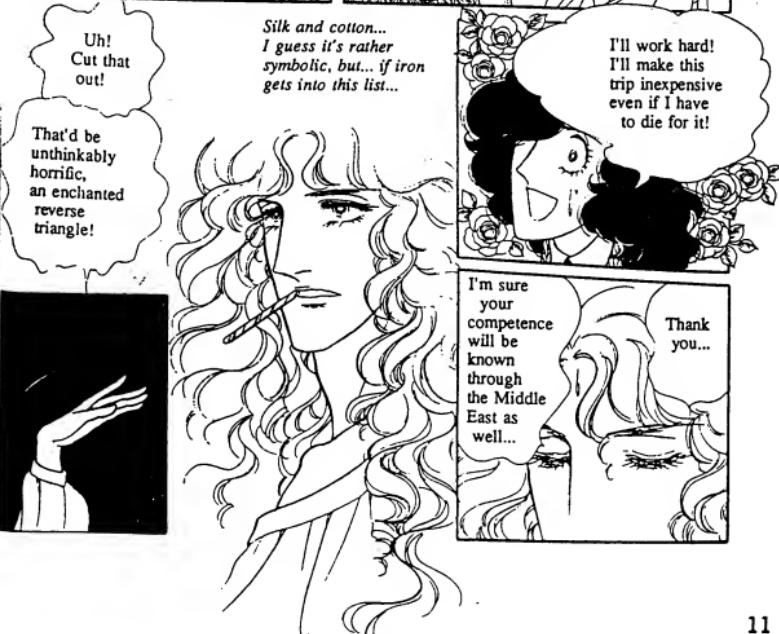
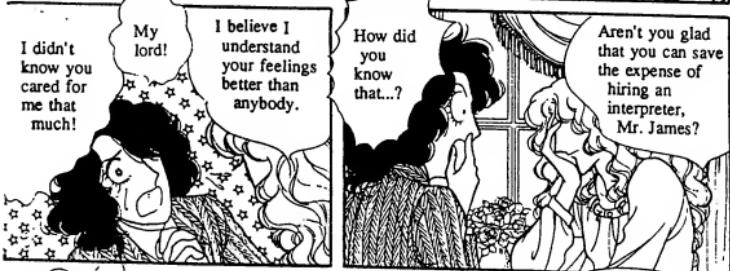
Then,
don't ask
unnecessary
questions.

Are you going
to a hot place
Master? Perhaps
you'd like some
sleeveless...





*NHK is a Japanese equivalent of BBC, except it doesn't have Monty Python.



AeroFlot was way
cheaper than most
airlines. Korean
Airlines would have
been cheaper, but
they didn't have
the route...

We're flying to
Istanbul in Turkey,
where we'll take the
bus on the Asian
Highway to Iran.

Now to far-off
Persia...

...
But
...
Why are we
taking a
Russian plane
to go to Iran,
anyway?

Let's
sneak in
instead.

Let's not
take any
major roads.
We're bound
by the law.



and
follow
the silk
road...



To blend
into the
Middle
Eastern
landscape
...

It'll be
enough if
I master
these two
phrases.



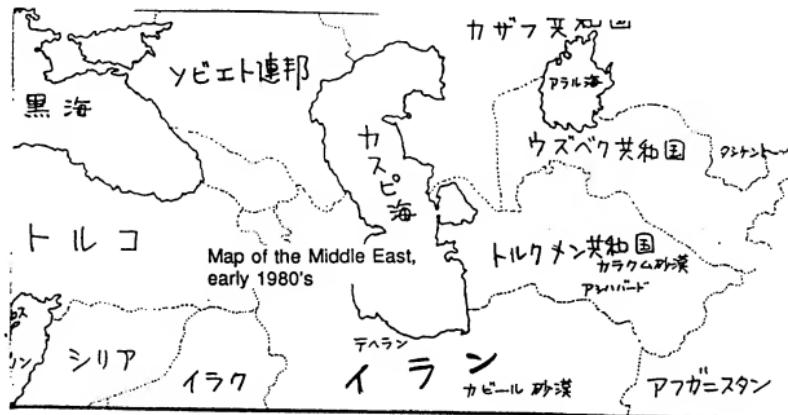
Why don't
you study
any other
Persian?



Mr. James
practicing
Persian
phrases
for ...



"How much?"
and
"Make it
100 Yen.
[About a
dollar.]



Z made his debut in his own series, *Z-Suite*, which didn't last very long.



SAVAK is already dissolved and the takeover government doesn't know about it.

And the fact that the Soviets have not made any moves suggests that they don't know, either.

It is believed that the Shah, Pahlevi, hid it somewhere before he escaped the country.

Moreover, it turns out that this secret is still somewhere in Tehran.

I believe you are the only man suited for this mission.

Your mission is to acquire this information without alerting the Revolutionary government or the Soviets.



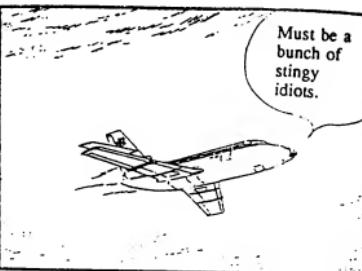
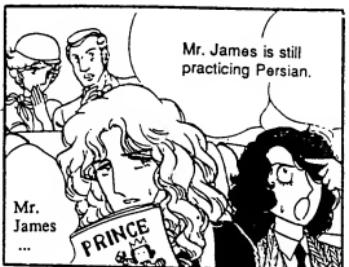
Major, there's a commercial plane.

It doesn't matter what my superiors think of me. I just complete the mission...

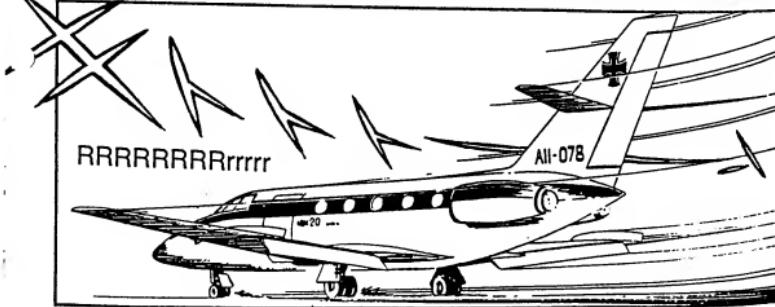
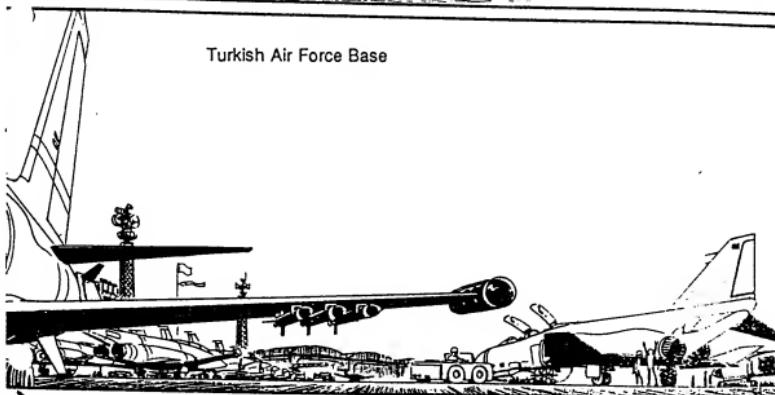
That last line must be either adulation or sarcasm.

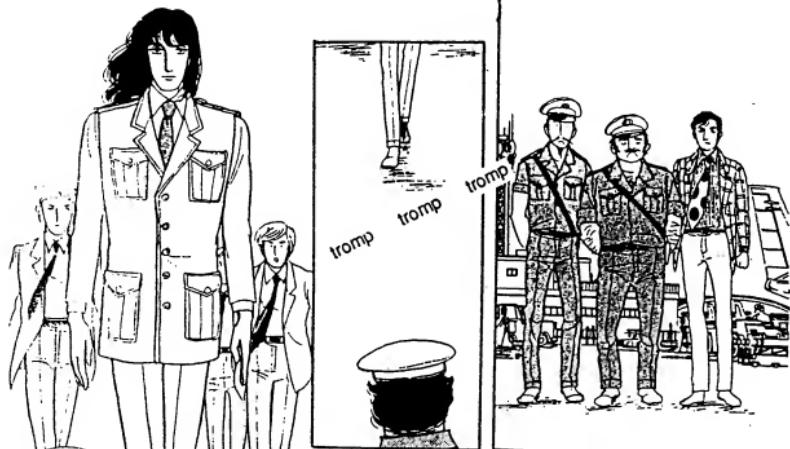
I just can't understand buggers who use Soviet planes.

That's Aero-Flot.

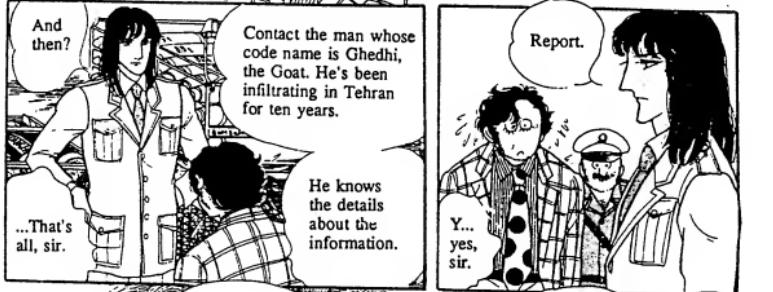


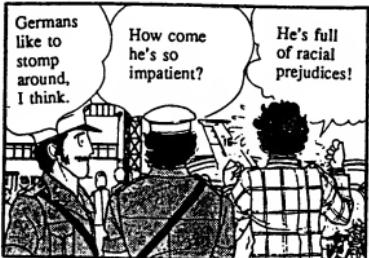
Turkish Air Force Base











Anatolia Plateau,
Asia Minor





We're getting near the border.

That's Mt. Ararat, the legendary peak on which Noah's ark is supposed to have landed.

Mr. L, take off those sunglasses! You look like the Masked What's-his-name!"

This is a role for G or Z, sir.

Mr. H! Act more feminine! You're supposed to be the wife!

Yes, sir!

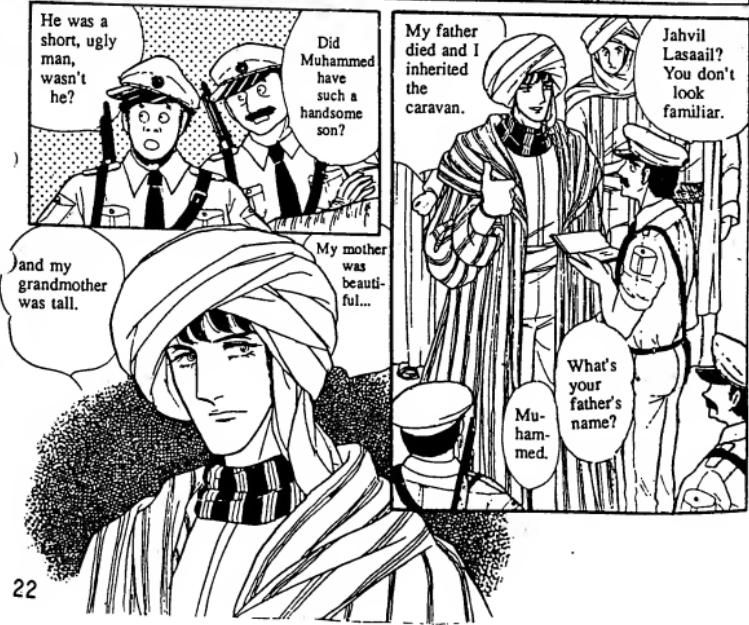
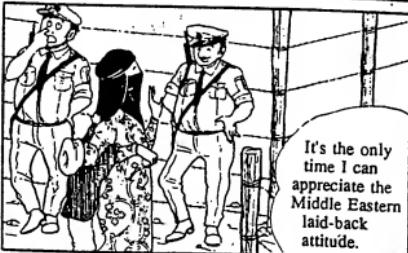
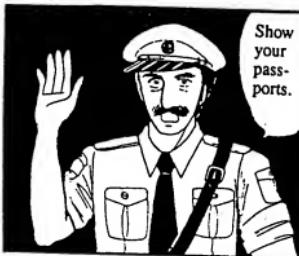
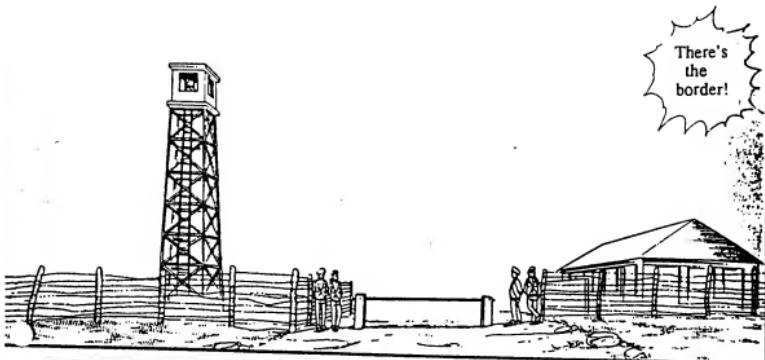
It actually is less noticeable here than suits and ties, isn't it?

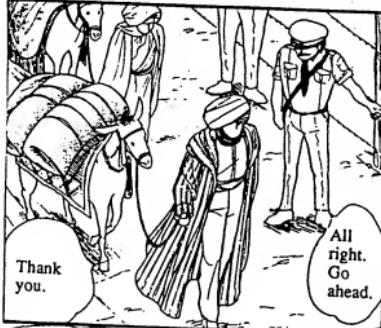
There's another caravan coming up behind us, sir.

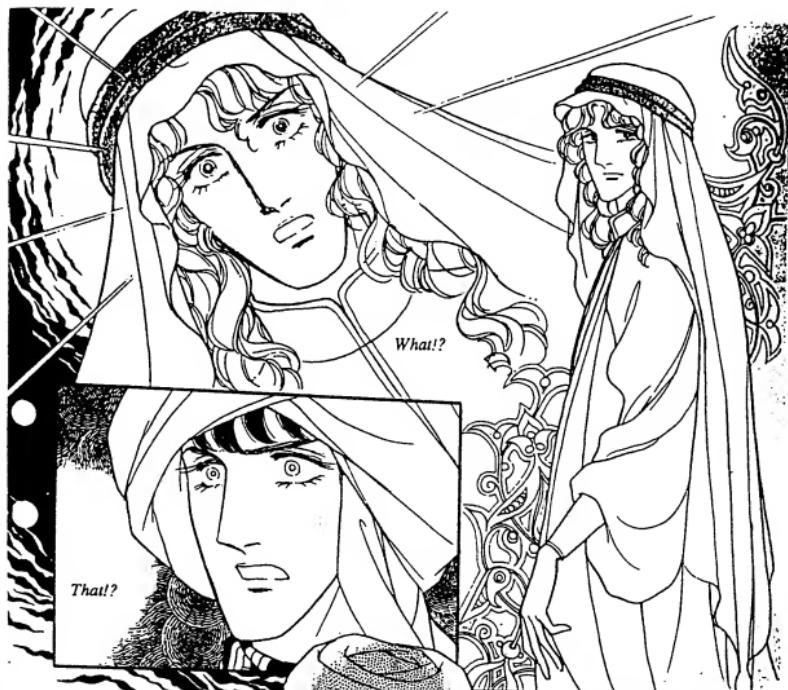


The best way to clear the border around here is to be a caravan. Keep this in mind.

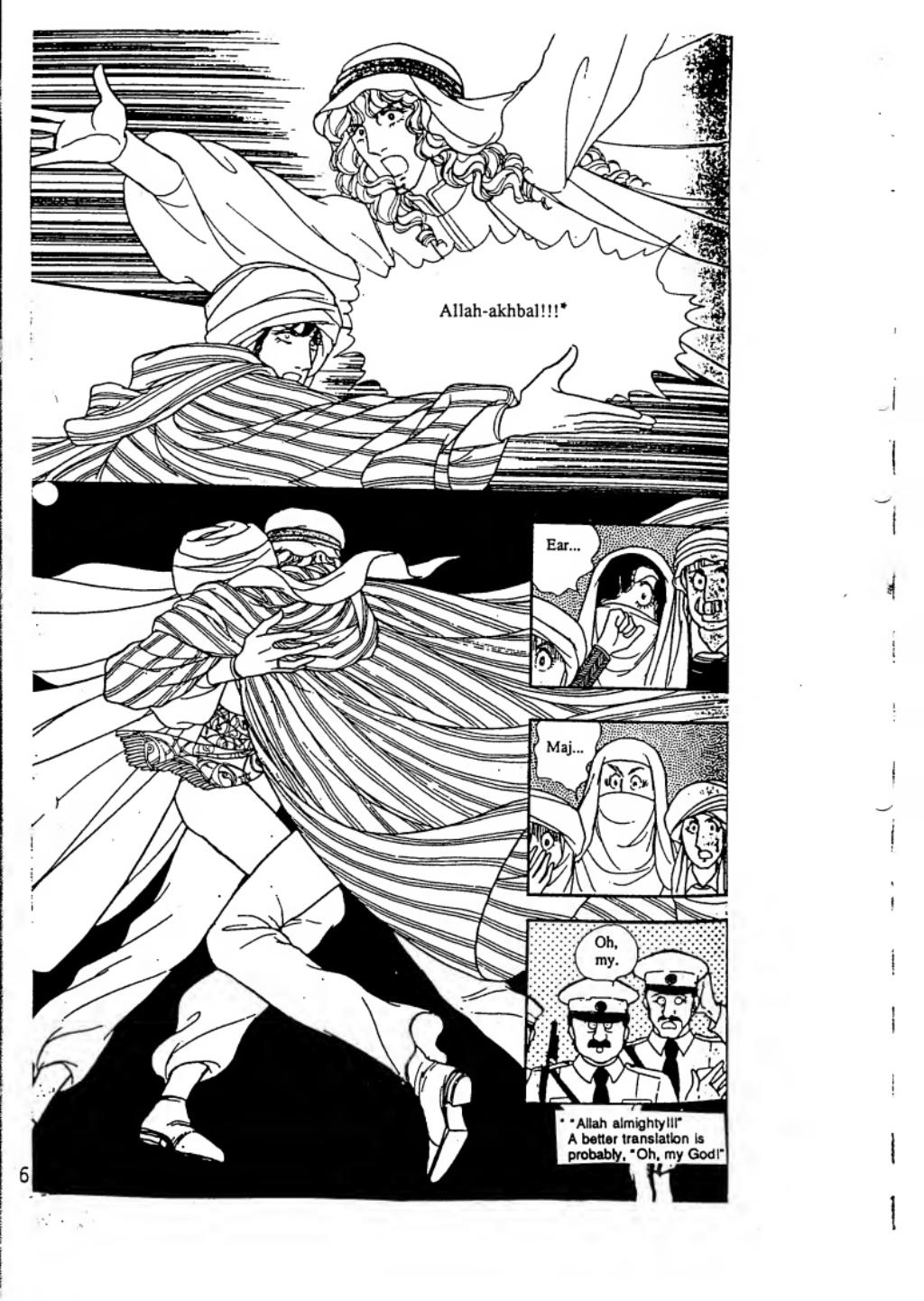
* *Masked Moonlight* is a Japanese TV series character. Aoike referred to him in her manga series *Sons of Eve*.











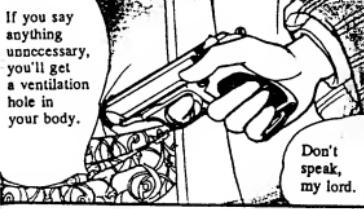
Allah-akhabal!!!*

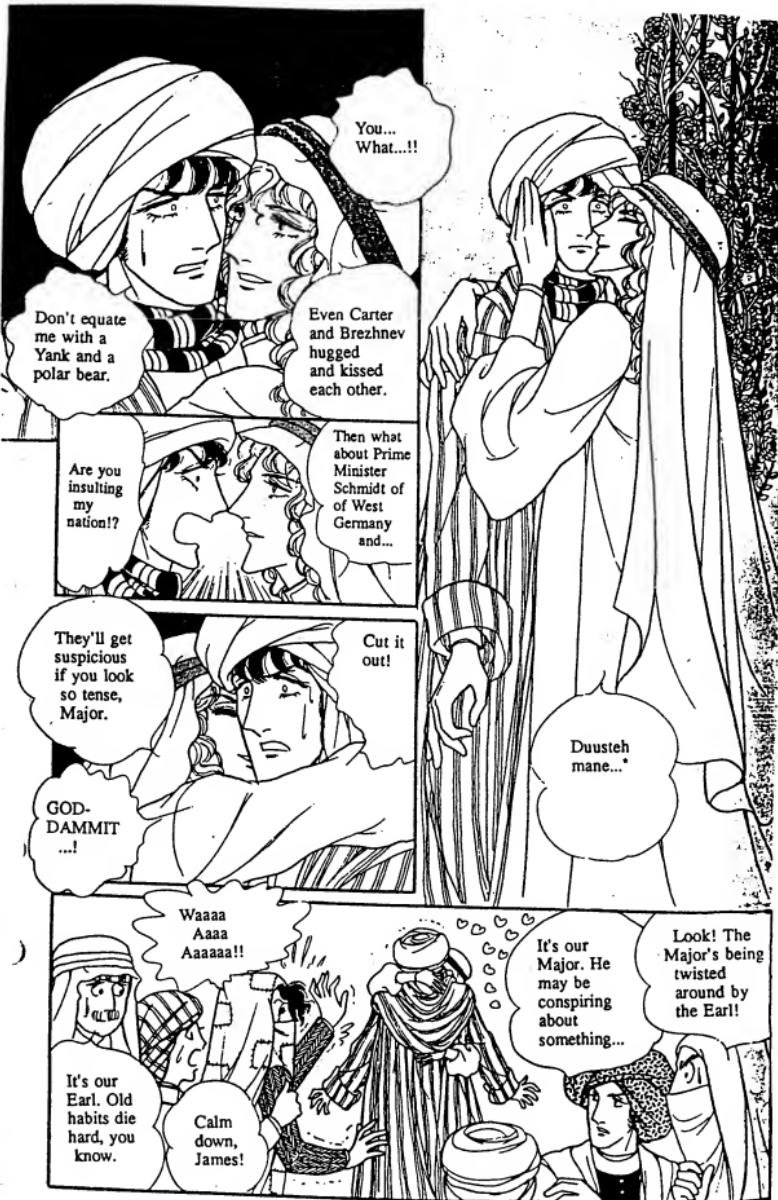
Ear...

Maj...

Oh,
my.

• "Allah almighty!!!"
A better translation is
probably, "Oh, my God!"





* Persian:
"my friend..."



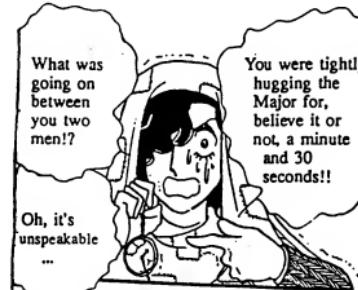


I don't have to answer your questions!!



Don't ever show up again you frigging queer son-of-a-bitch!





I have no idea where the Major was going, but... Iran is a big country. I don't think I'll see him again here... So... from Eroica with love... Good luck to my dear Major...



*but I hate him
more than anybody
else in the
entire world!
What a frigging
faggot!*

*I dislike
lazy Turks
and Wops.*

*You wanna
turn me
into a
Raggedy
Ann!?*

*What
about
mercu-
ro-
chrome,
sir?*

*Were you
injured,
Major?*

*He licked
all over
my face
in public!*

*I'll get
some
contagious
skin
disease!*

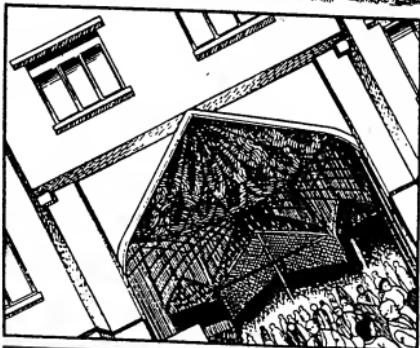
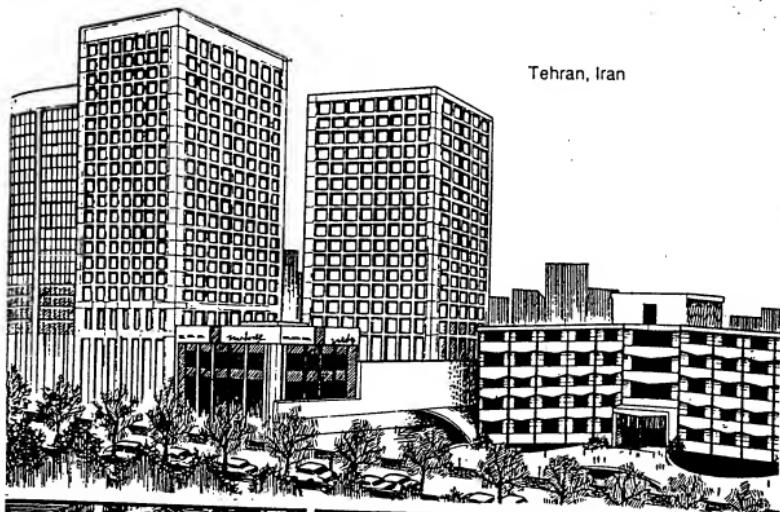
*I don't think
he has rabies,
sir. Don't
worry.*

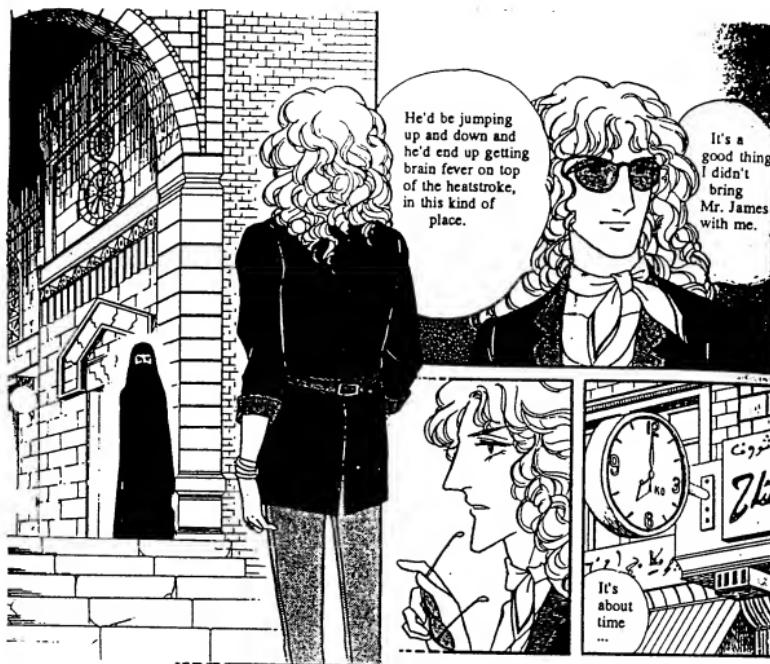
*Disappear into the
horizon of the
Middle East,
Lord Gloria!*

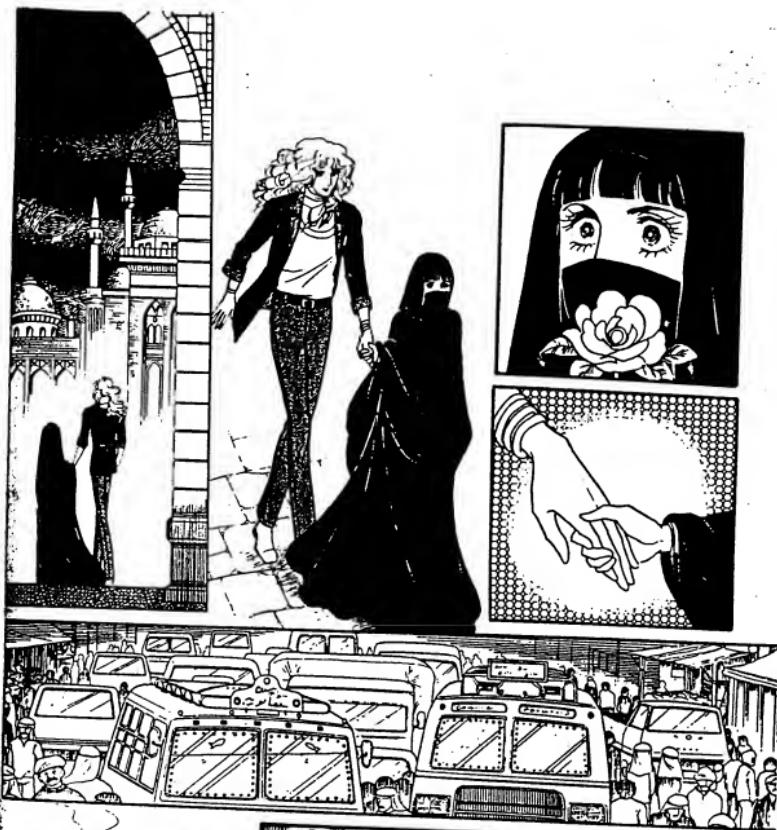
*Never
spring out
in front
of me!!*



Tehran, Iran













My boys were saying
you were not an
ordinary man as soon
as you walked in
but...

So you are
the man who
wanted to
see me.

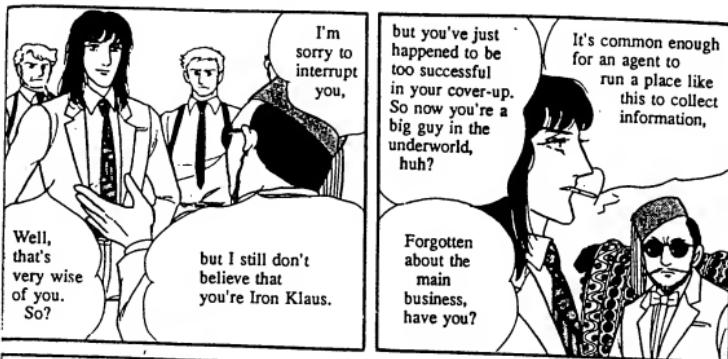
who
are
you?

...
Iron

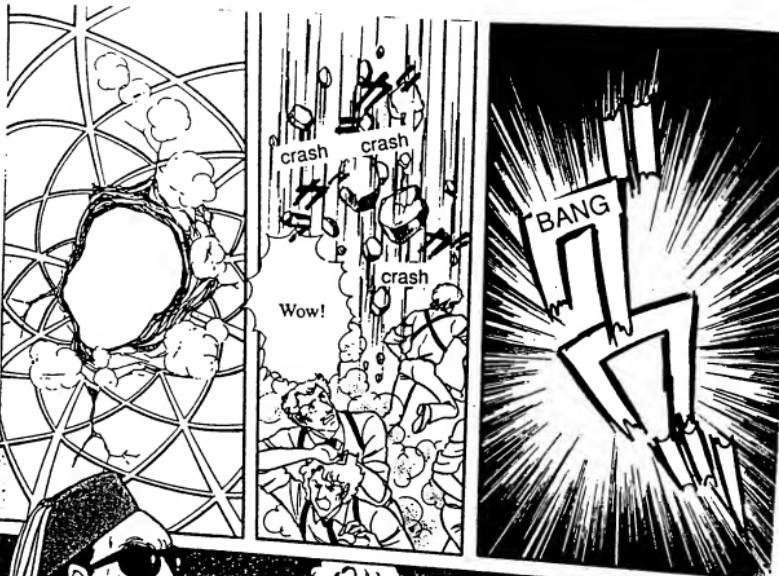
Ghedhi the
goat, isn't it?
I believe you
were informed
about me from
Istanbul...

Your
code
name
is...

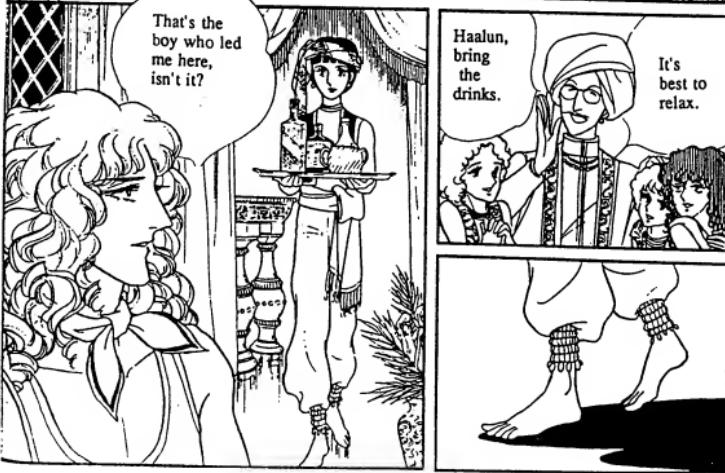
...
Klaus!







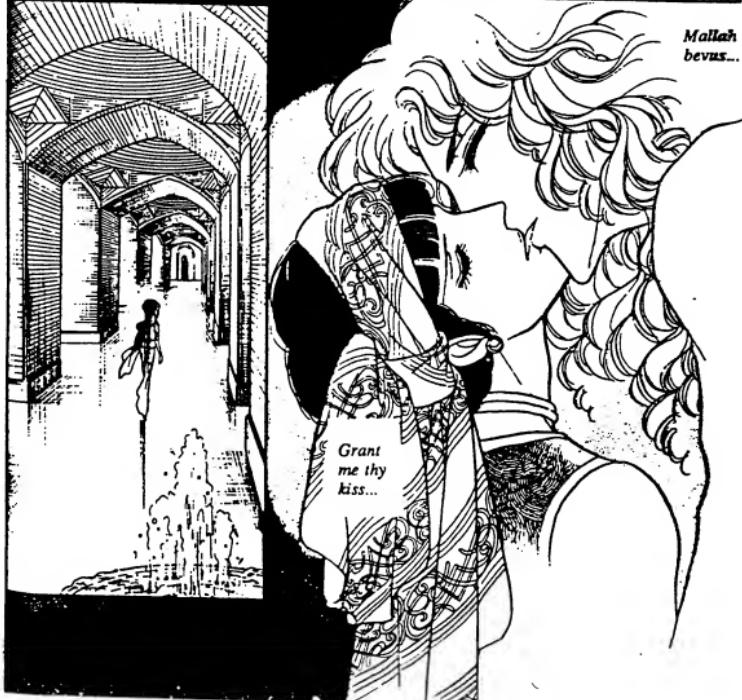
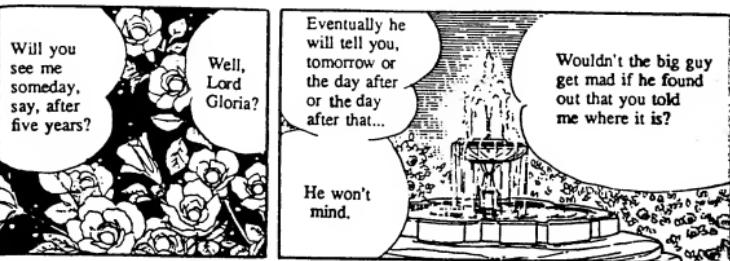


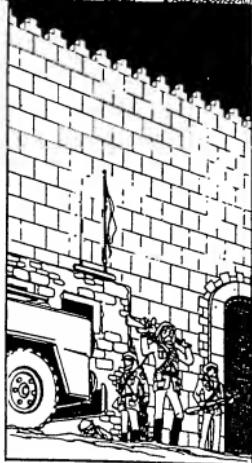


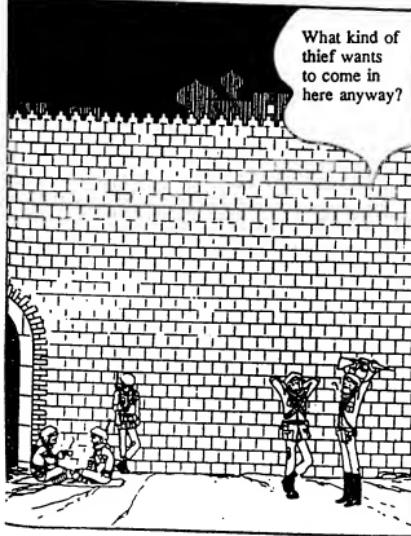
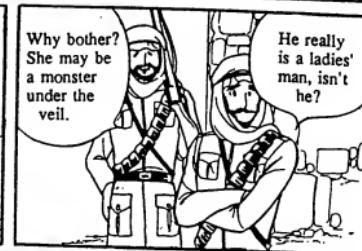
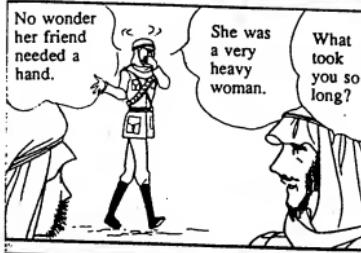


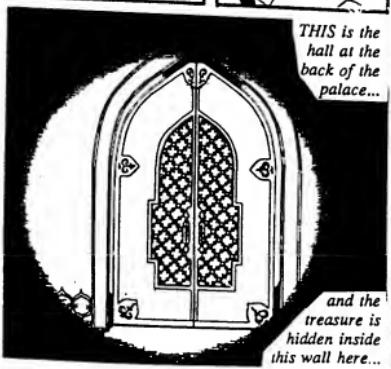
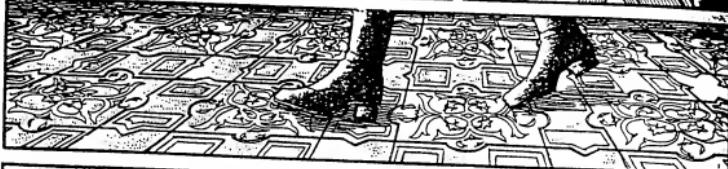






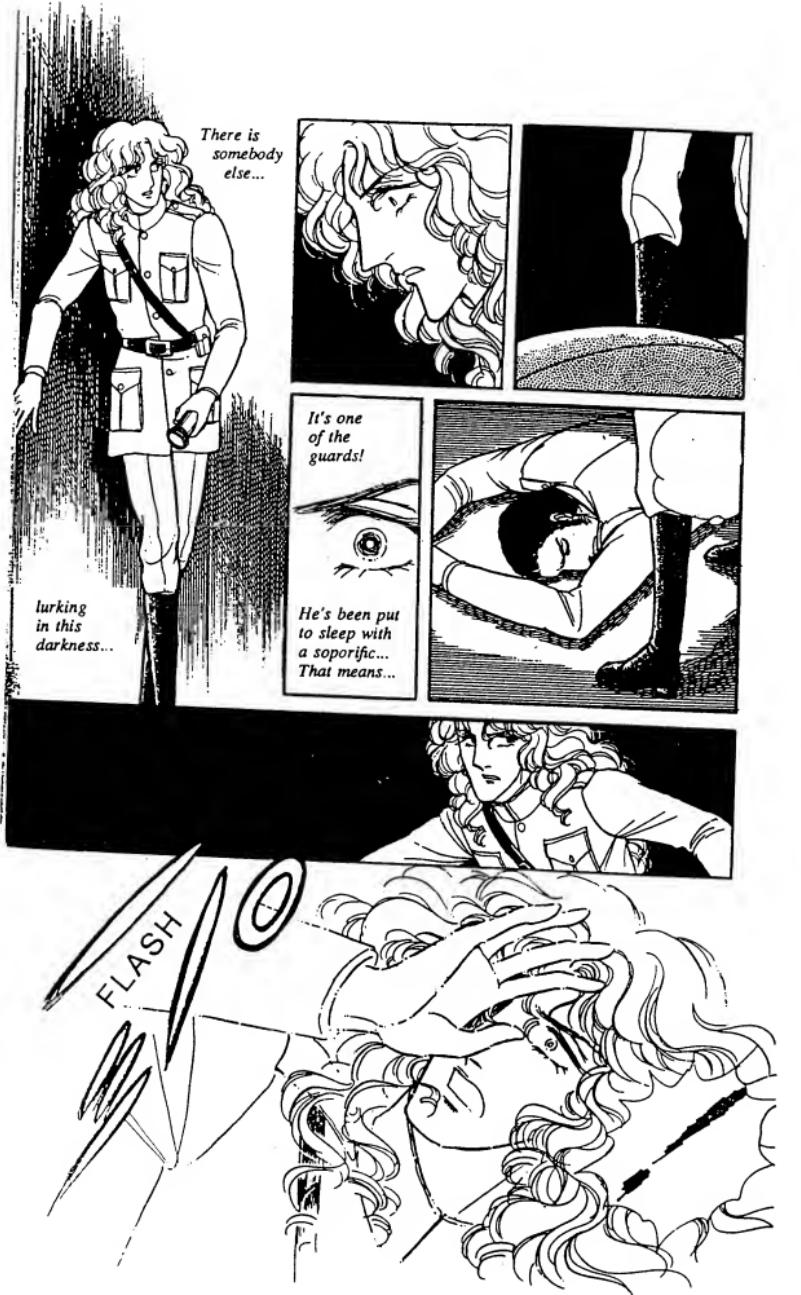






THIS is the
hall at the
back of the
palace...

and the
treasure is
hidden inside
this wall here...

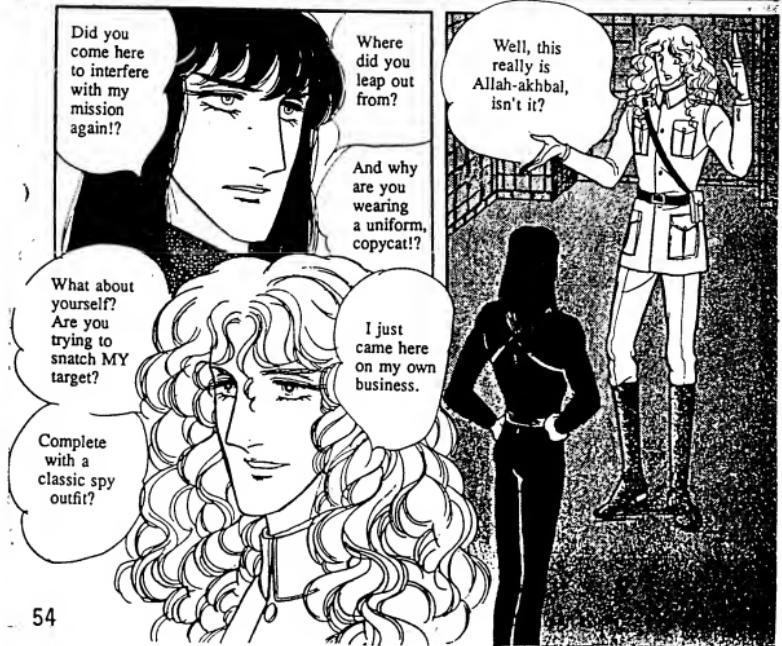
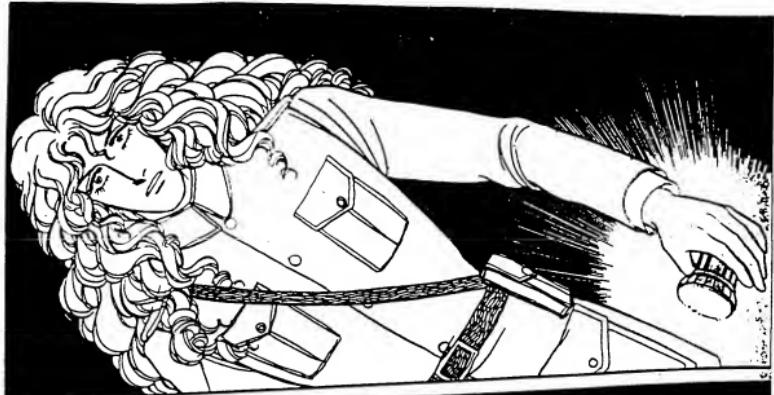




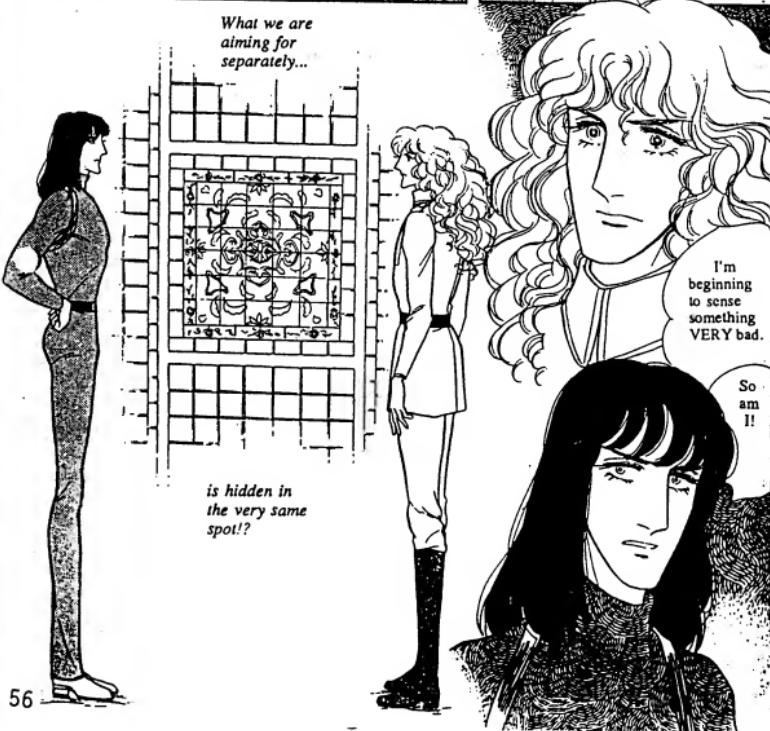
*The real
issue here...*

*Is this
undeniable
fact!*









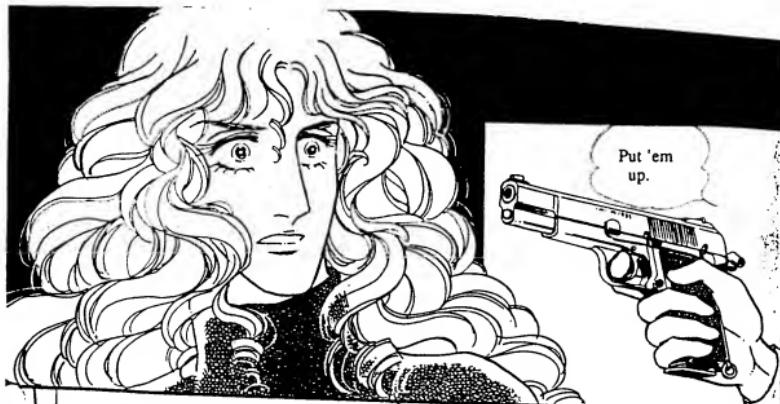
















So you
don't
recognize
my face?



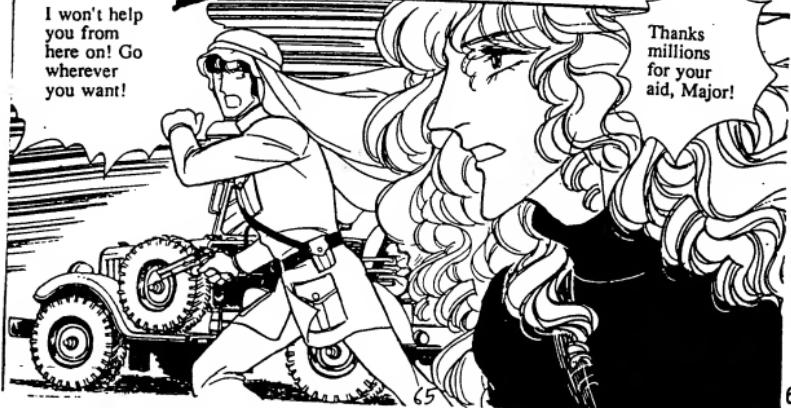
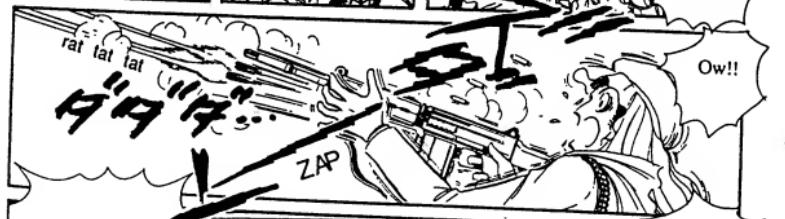
which
regiment
are you...

Eh...
excuse
me...
but...

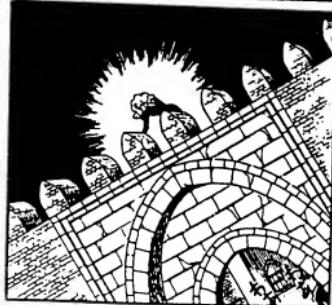
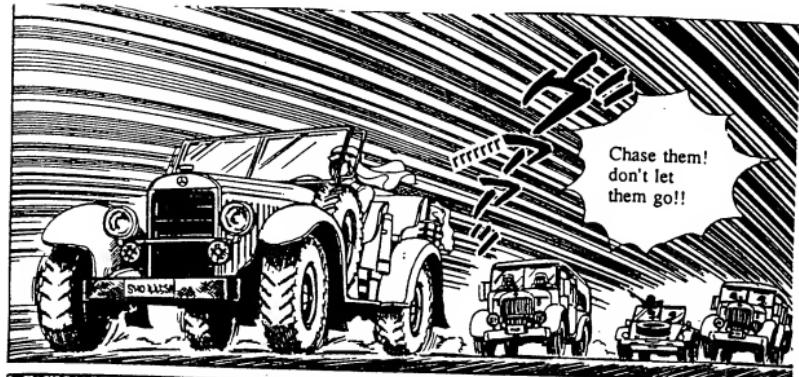


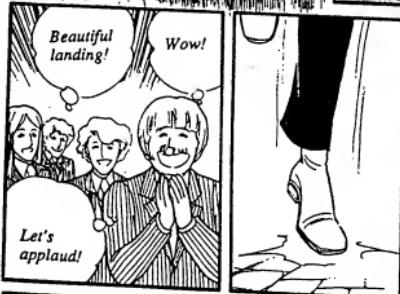
Of course
not. I'm a...





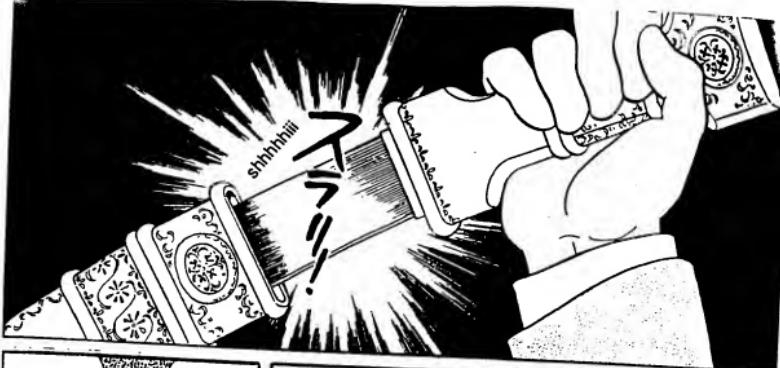








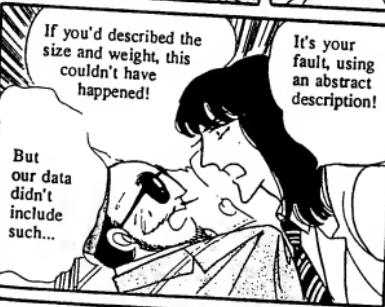




There's no micro-film in there,

Your mistake, Major.

no matter how many times you try it.



But our data didn't include such...

If you'd described the size and weight, this couldn't have happened!

It's your fault, using an abstract description!

And I thought I told you it was an "extremely beautiful jeweled dagger with artistic value."

That was my big blunder!

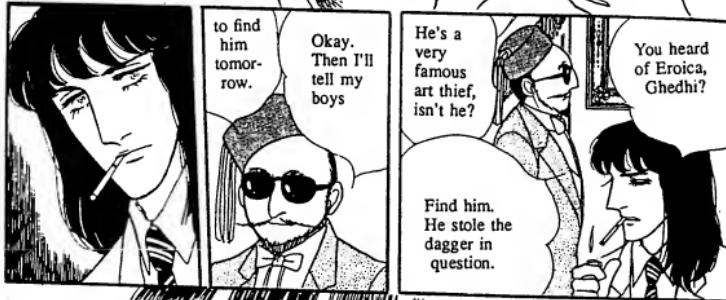


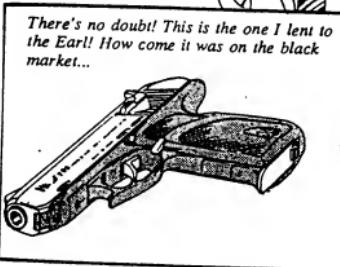
Wasn't there any other...

So, was this the only jeweled dagger?

This seems more practical than artistic.

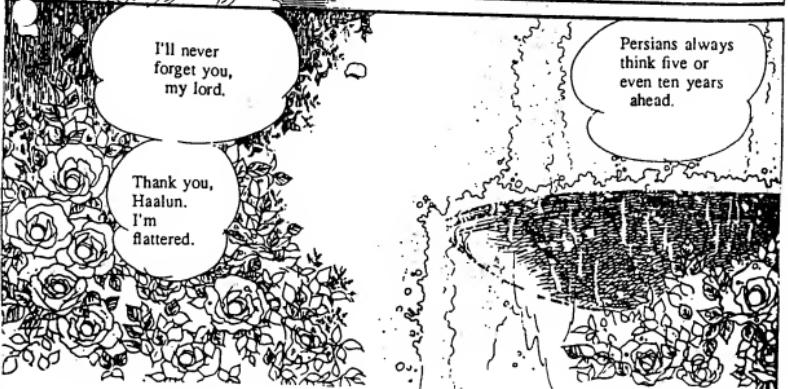
I should've checked inside without taking heed of the Earl!



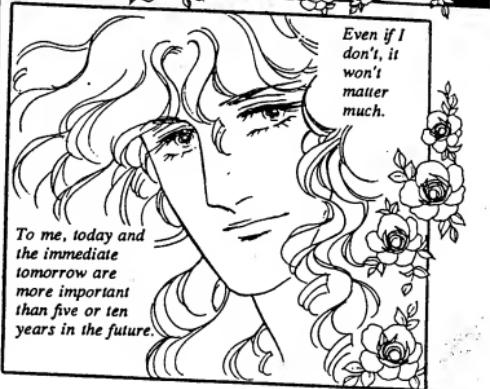




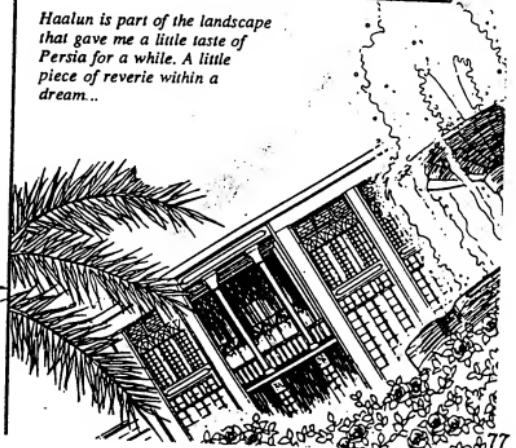


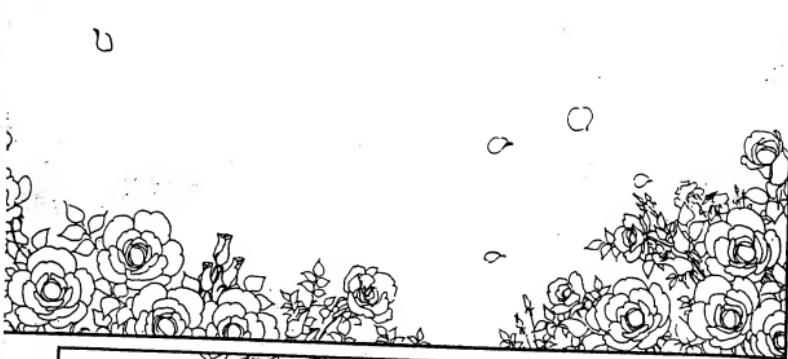


*To end a dream as a dream can be
a very romantic thing. Even if
there's a following sequence in
the drama, that'll be In shah
Allah. Farewell, Haalun.*



*Haalun is part of the landscape
that gave me a little taste of
Persia for a while. A little
piece of reverie within a
dream...*





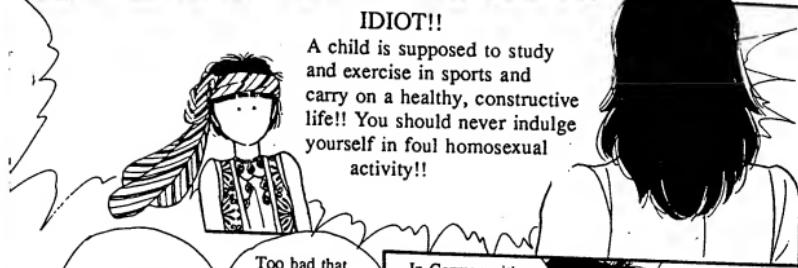


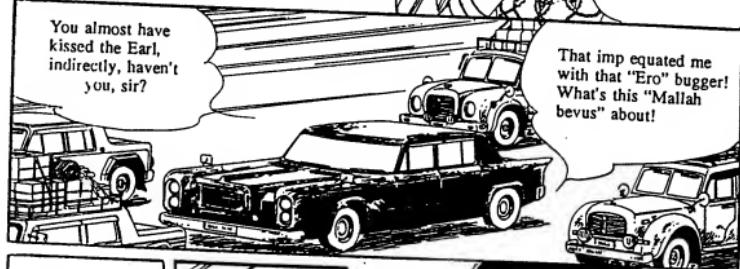






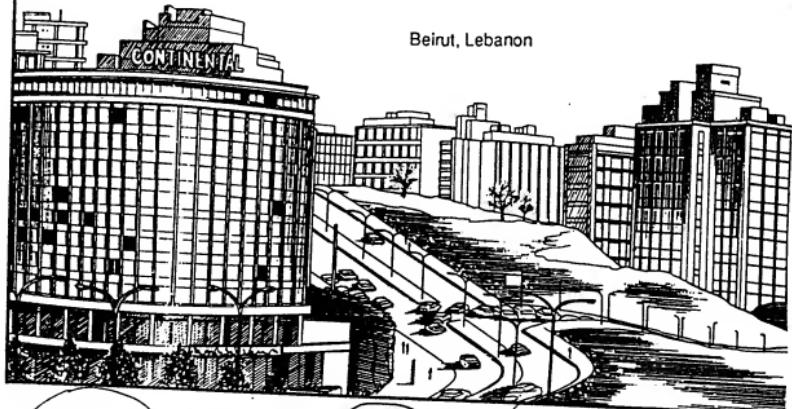
IDIOT!!
A child is supposed to study and exercise in sports and carry on a healthy, constructive life!! You should never indulge yourself in foul homosexual activity!!





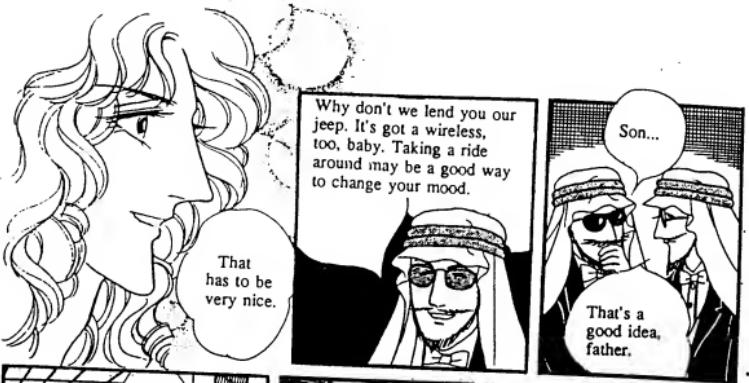


Beirut, Lebanon





* ICPO is the abbreviation for Interpol used in Europe.





A caravan civilization flourished here until 1700 years ago when the Romans destroyed them.

That's the Palmyra ruin.



Mr. James,
could you stop
pursuing your
fantasy for a
while,

and let me
pursue mine?

Don't they have
a black market
at the ruin?

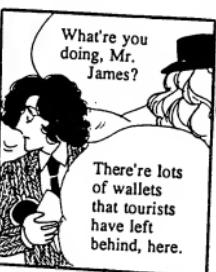
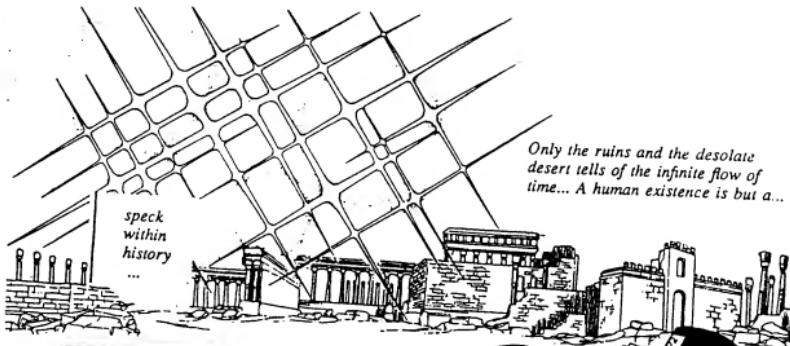
A
thrift-market
or co-op would
be fine with
me...



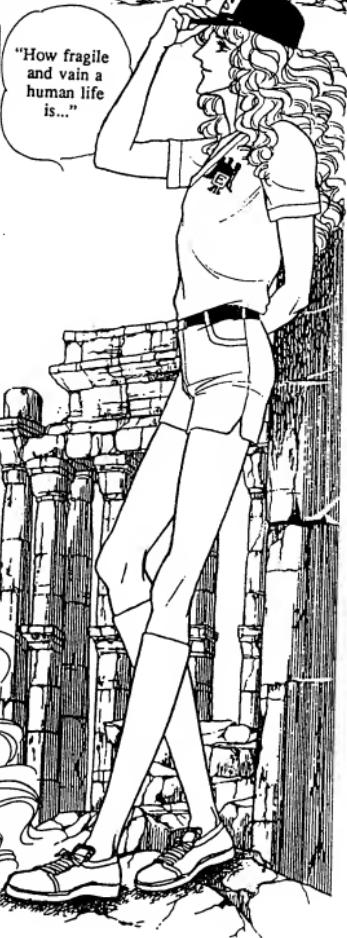
*The splendors of Palmyra
and the tragedy of the
desert queen Zenobia,
whose beauty was sung
in many poems...
but all is gone...*

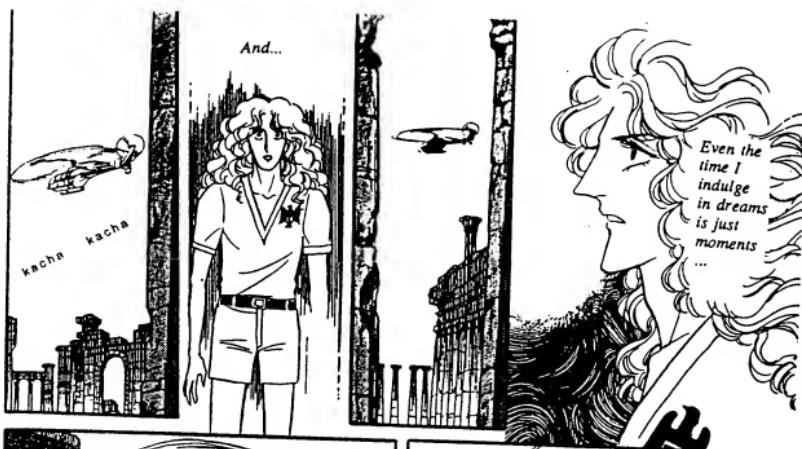
*The historic drama of the
rise and fall of this
Silk Road...*





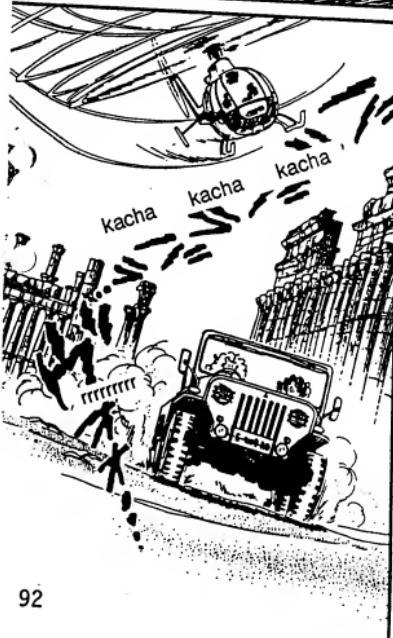
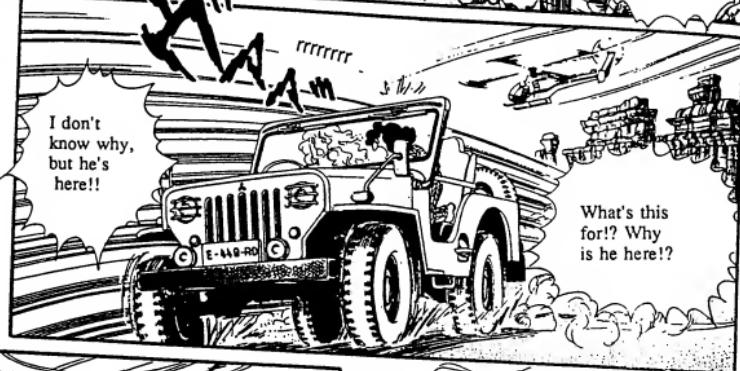
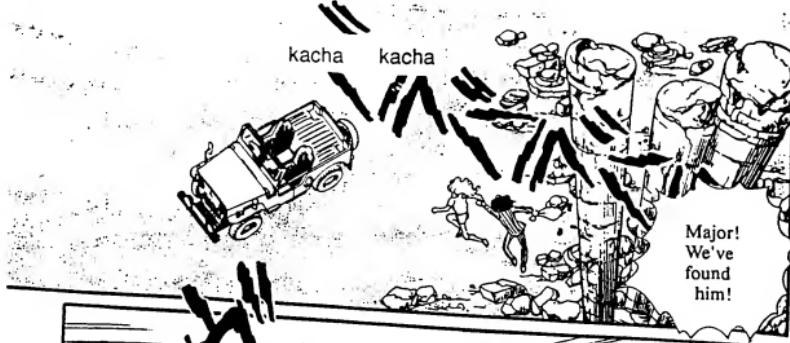
How fragile and vain...

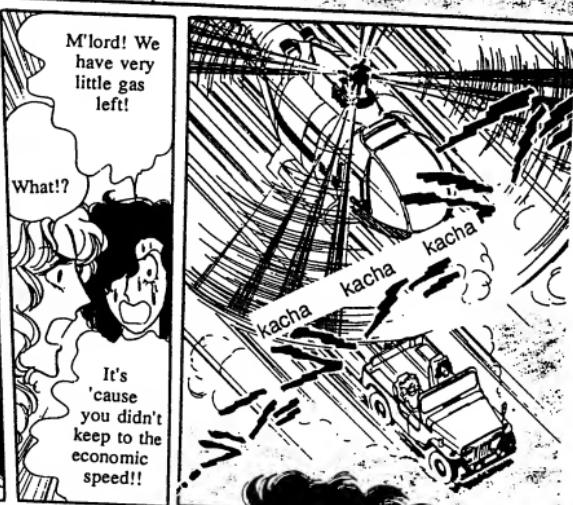
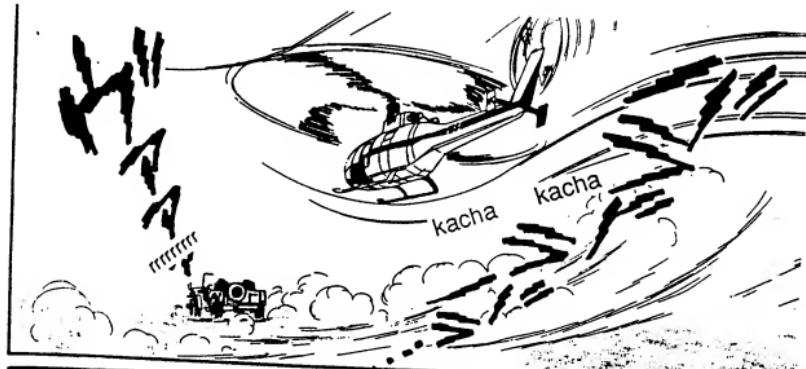


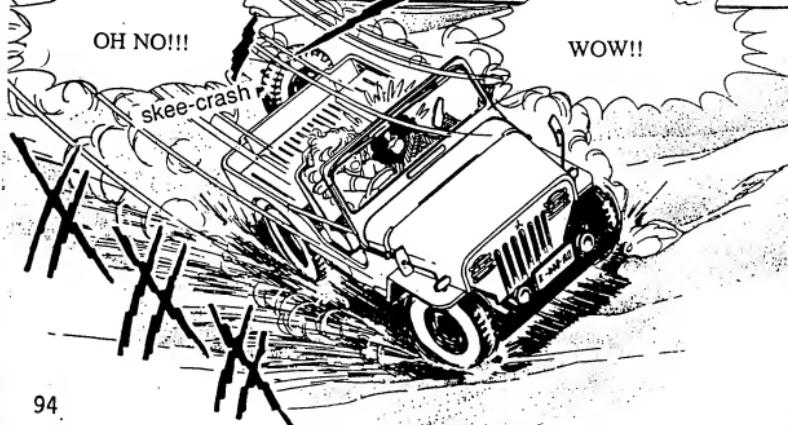
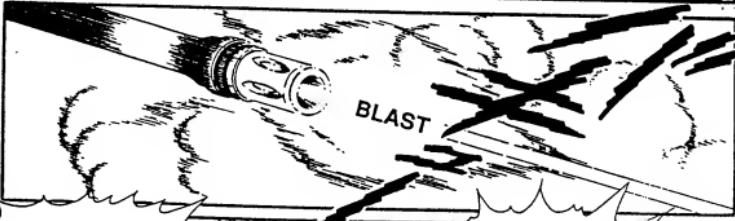


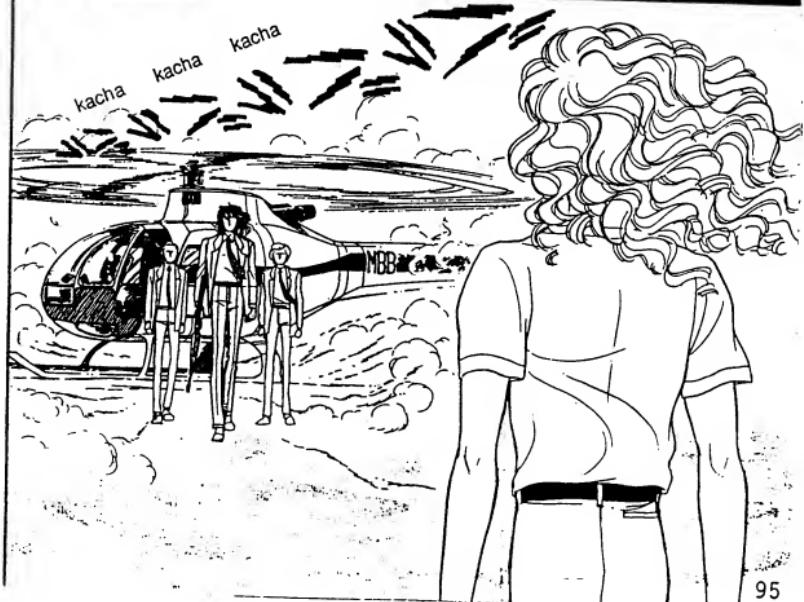
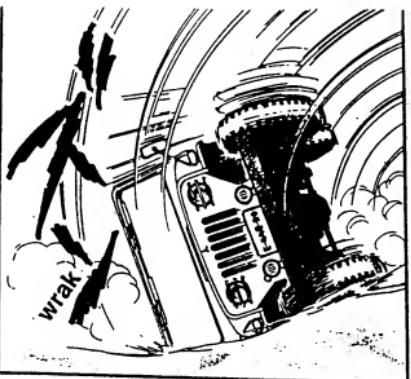
Even the
time I
indulge
in dreams
is just
moments
...



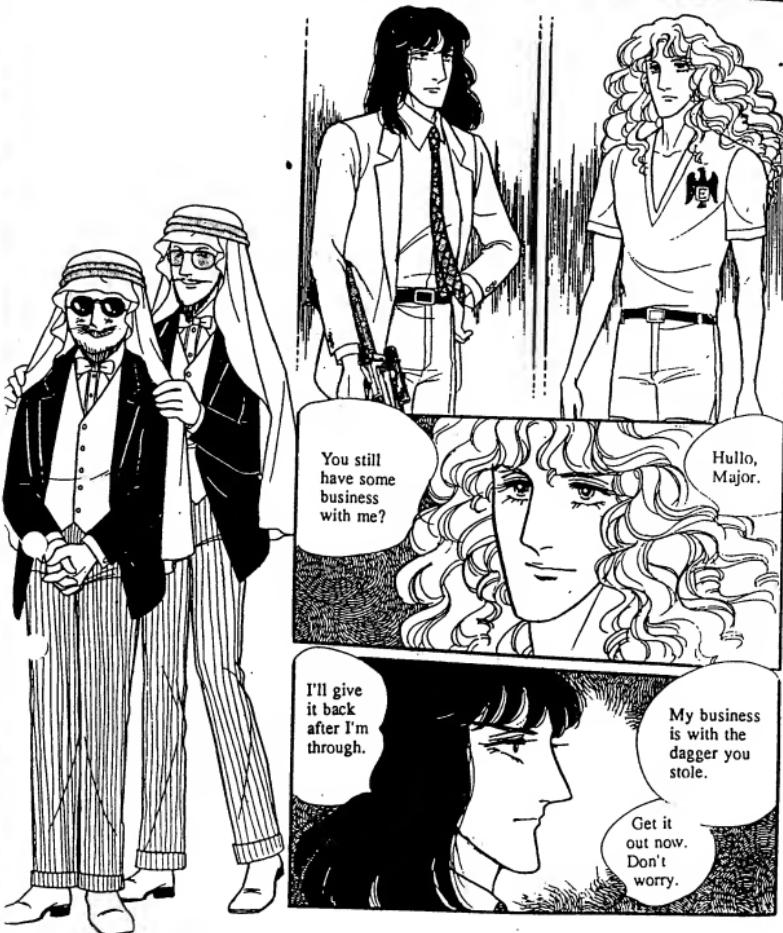


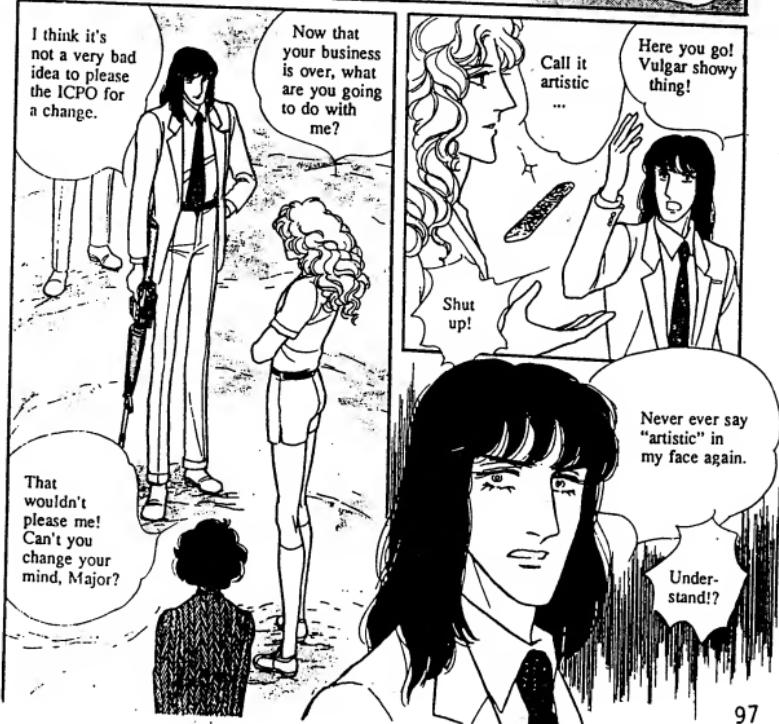
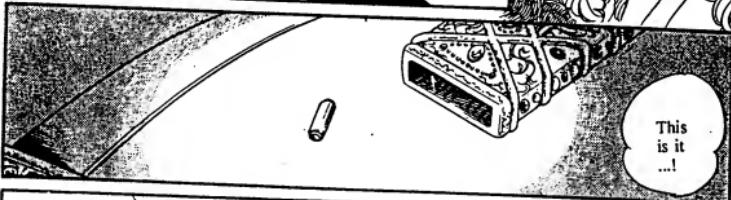
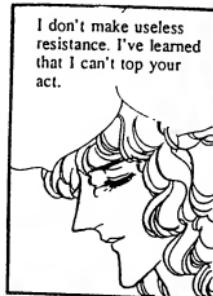


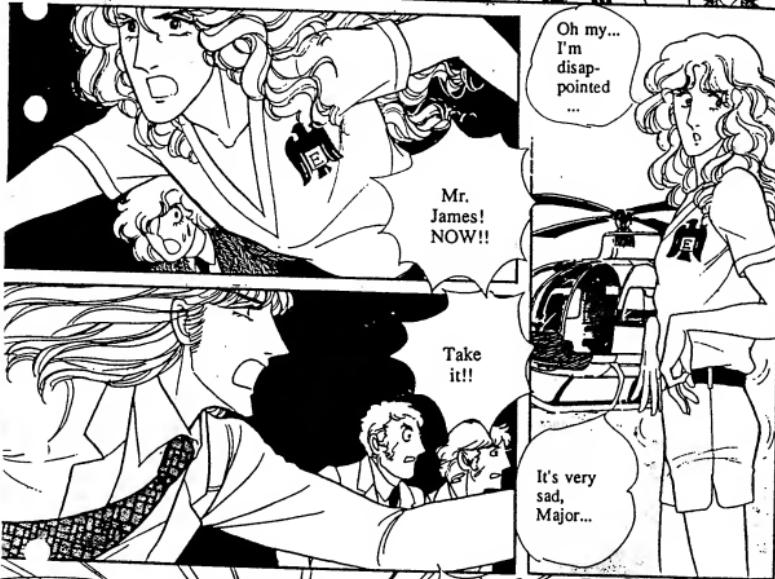




*Pretty good jeep...
Looks like it's got
lots of gas too...*









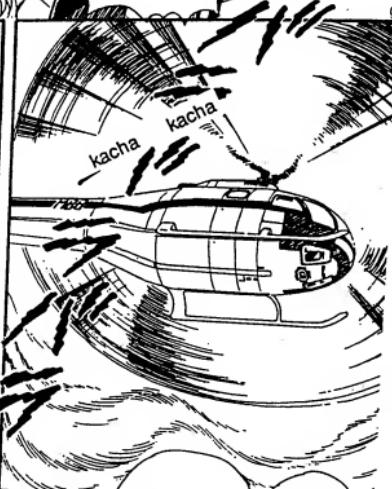
Idiot! Didn't know the fuel's gone, did you? You'll get stuck in the middle of the desert eventually.

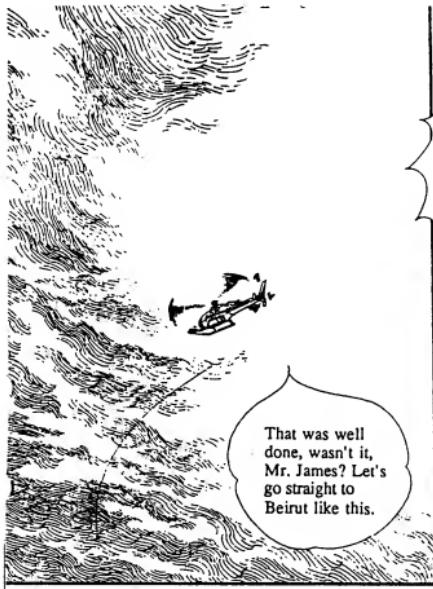


He ran away!



Leave him alone.





What a crooked man he is! I didn't realize he was that crooked!!

That's why he jumped on my jeep!!

That's a big mistake! I can't believe I let the Major cheat me!

M...m'lord! We MUST soft land somehow!

It'll take ages, Mr. James.

This is an oil country! Why don't we dig around? We may hit gasoline...

Isn't there a gas station around here?

Nice job, Major. It's not very nice to cheat on a thief, though.

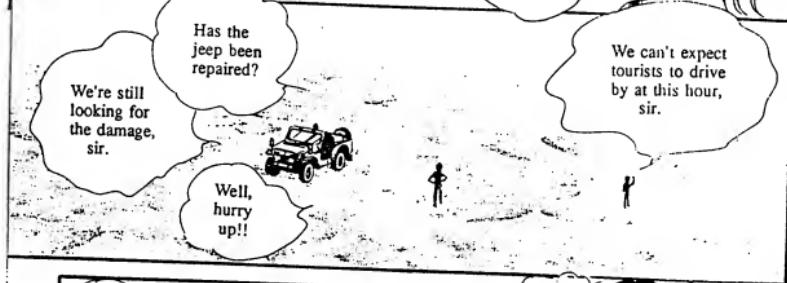
A copter stuck in the middle of the desert, huh?

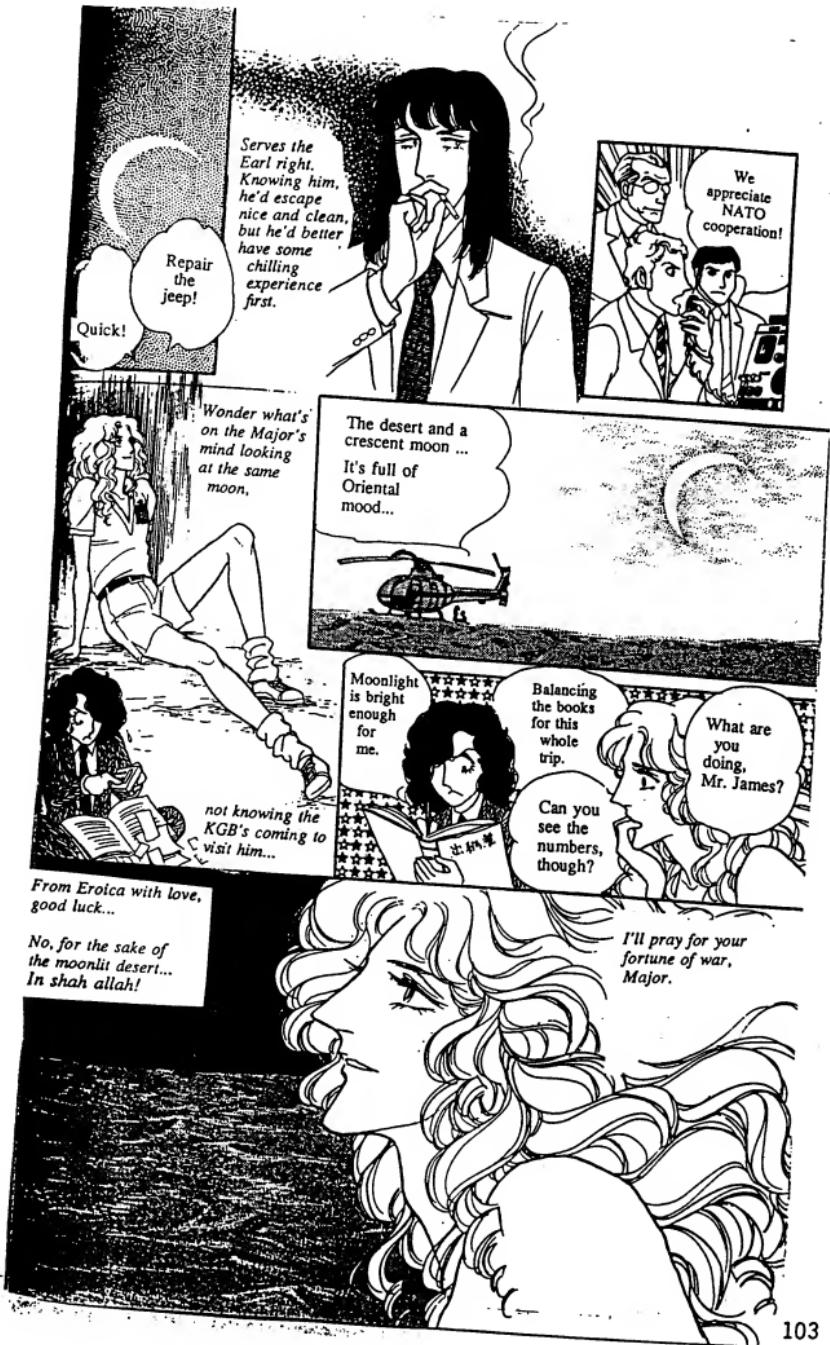
I guess we have to send for rescue on the wireless.

It's close enough to Palmyra that if tourists drive by we can get a ride, but...

Yes.

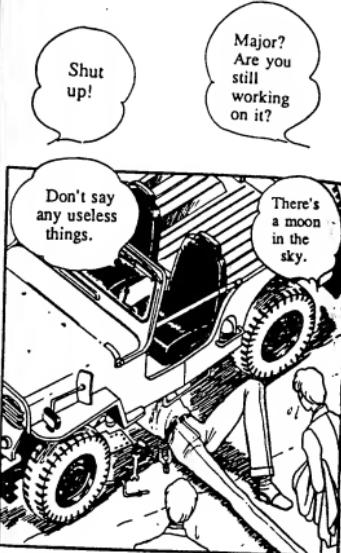
Mr. James, start up the radio.

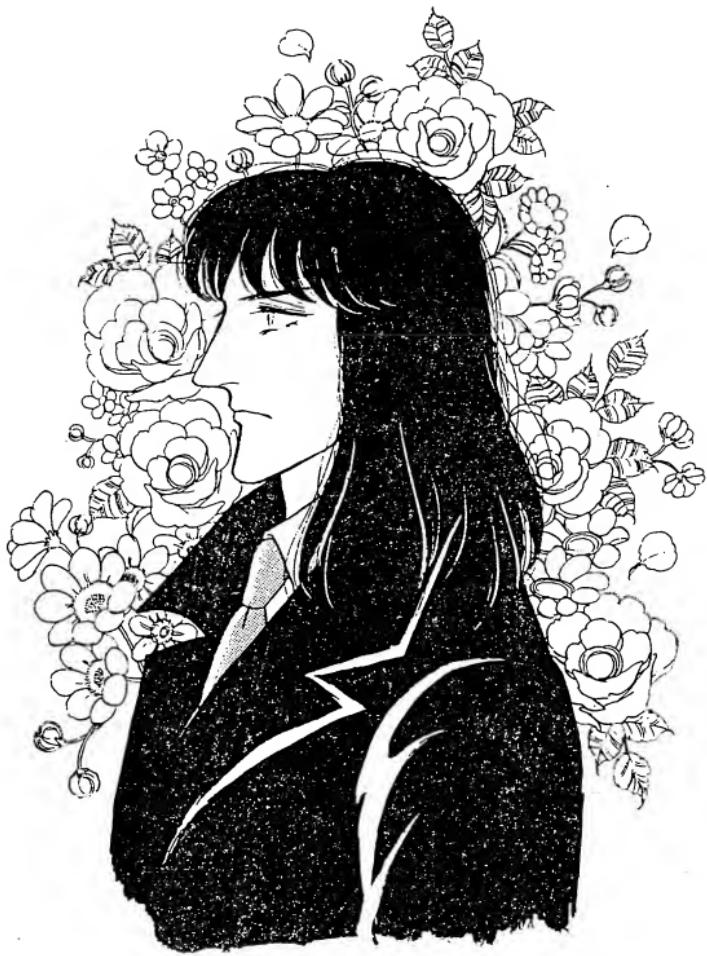






All is
as Allah
wishes
...





FROM EROICA WITH LOVE
NO. 7: hallelujah express
NO. 8: VENI, VIDI, VICI



HALLELUJAH EXPRESS

From Eroica With Love, #7
Aoike Yasuko

Translated by Kx

青池
保子



PRINCESS COMICS

〈プリンセスコミックス〉

crack

Meet
your
maker,
Major!

BANG BANG
BANG









*Almighty Lord
our God, he
ruleth all,
Hallelujah...*



Oh, Lord,
have mercy
on me...

Make my sins
disappear with
Your forgiveness...
Wash away all my
immorality and
free me from
my sins...



I'm a very
busy man,
needless
to say.

It affects
my physical
condition if
I sleep too
much.

So, will you
tell me beforehand
if you make your
sermon longer
than usual?

*Christmas and Sundays
have nothing to do with
me. I have to get my
work done before
anything else.*

Let's
go.

That's fine
... if it
makes
him...
peaceful
...

He's using
your sermon as a
lullaby!

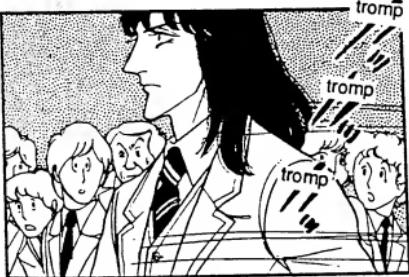
If you want
to complain,
do it to the
priest.

That was
longer than
usual, sir.

The Chief
called. He
wants you to
get back to HQ
immediately.

*As soon as
I think my
mood's improved
in church, I
get a job to
do, don't I?*









But the Chief is even more insolent! What's this "eating, sleeping and going to the potty" anyway? Shit-head! Faggot!

A superior officer doesn't let a bunch of subordinates read his mind!

How insolent!

Trying to read my mood, are they?

Do I really have to ... I mean... that...!?

Of all things, why does he have to throw me this frigging mission!? A mission especially for me!? He'd better be kidding! It's humiliating!!

GODDAMN-FUCKIN' IT!!!!

DAMN IT!

DAMN IT!

That closeup scares me!

displeased about a mission...?

the mission-a-holic Major's looking SO...

It sure is unusual that...

the Earl's castle

hosanna in excelsis.

Say Gloria! Glory to the Lord of Hosts. Heaven and Earth are filled with thy glory.

Hosanna in excelsis.

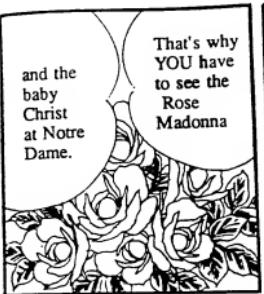
Blessed is His only begotten son, Who came in the name of the Lord.

How can I make an estimate for such a stupid trip? You're making a pilgrimage to churches? Huh? You're an Atheist!

How pretentious!

My lord, you look like you're really into this, but...

Oh, Mr. James. Have you done the estimates?



It's a spiritual pilgrimage for the season, you know.

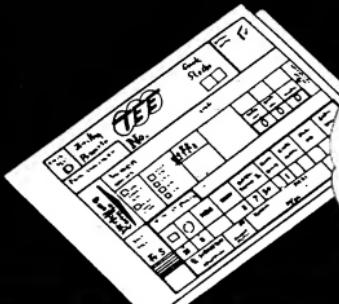
I only wish to visit the physical manifestations of the piety of people who tried to capture God's glory on Earth.



The St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican,



...What do you think of this gift, everyone?



A pair of first-class tickets for the TEE
Île de France which leaves
at 18:01 at Amsterdam
three days from today.
The destination is
Paris.



* KDD is a Japanese travel agency.

Is bringing me down to a comic role from being a hero the divine ordeal designated for me?

Oh God...!

eating hardened leftover cake...?

Are you telling me to spend Christmas

economy-sized book of matches.

The bank's giving away cakes to the T/D customers this year! Last year it was an

It's registered express.

Leave it there. I'm not feeling well.

M'lord, there's mail for you.

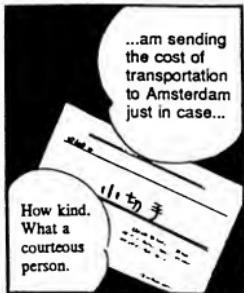
Oh, poo! It's just a pair of train tickets.

Oh God! Your ordeal!!

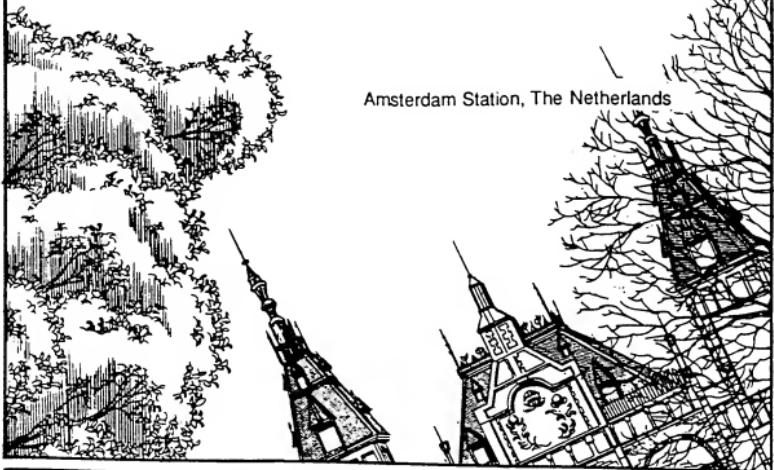
Is it cash or a check, I wonder.

What!?

Oh, I'm so happy my lord!!



Amsterdam Station, The Netherlands

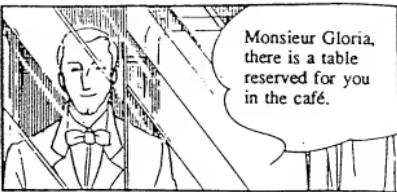
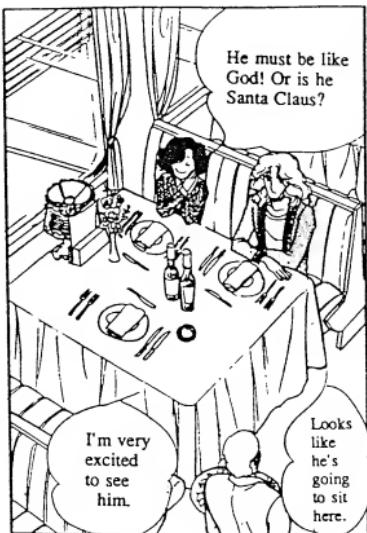






• A Japanese railroad song

• An old Japanese diesel train



Still trying out the sideways glance.

Major.

In either case,
I'd gladly
accept your
invitation...

Mr. James, why
don't you thank
Uncle Santa?

NO WAY
!!!

Then I'd've
reserved the
Rheinegordt
instead.

I thought
this would
appeal to
your
frivolous
tastes.

Are you
ready to
order,
Messieurs?

Leave him
alone.

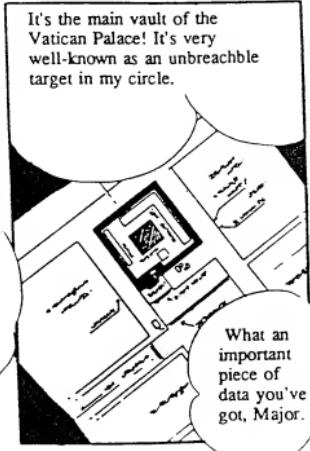
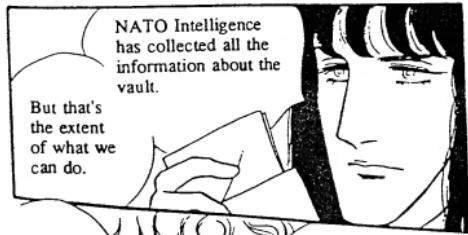
M'sieur,
please
don't
crawl under
the table...

No need for
French food.
Just some
dark beer.

Oui
...

It's been
a while
since
Palmyra,
hasn't it,
Major?







which
NATO has
investigated
secretly.

Major, check
this. It's
the main vault
at the Vatican
Palace,

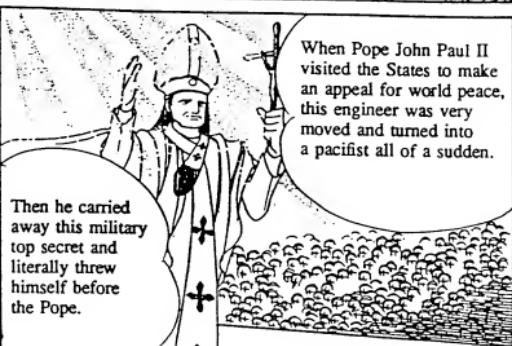
Of
course.

Inside there is a very important secret, concerning satellites, that was stolen from the Advanced Research Project Center of the U.S. Department of Defense. As you know, satellites are very liberally used in military operations nowadays, such as the U.S. Operation Saint and the Soviets' Operation Killer.

The stolen secret concerns a counter-satellite project which was being researched. An engineer inside the project stole it.

When Pope John Paul II visited the States to make an appeal for world peace, this engineer was very moved and turned into a pacifist all of a sudden.

Then he carried away this military top secret and literally threw himself before the Pope.



If our actions become known, we will be blamed by the entire world.

This job has to be done extremely confidentially. We're dealing with God's representative, the Pope.

Of course, we mustn't let the Soviets know, either.

I believe YOU know him very well... ahem... personally,

Don't you, Major?

As far as I know, there's only one thief capable of this big a job.

That's wiser.

You're making me act like a thief again, aren't you?

Therefore, Major.

No. NATO has decided to ask a professional to help.

The killer cycle!"

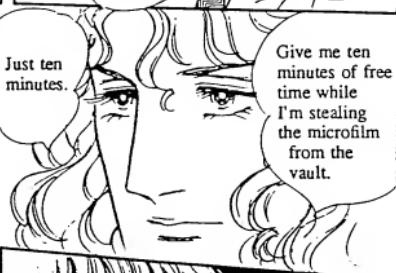
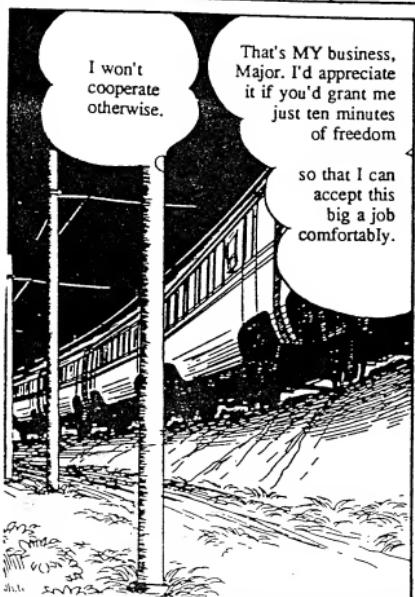
Your mission is to make him steal this top secret from the vault and bring it back.

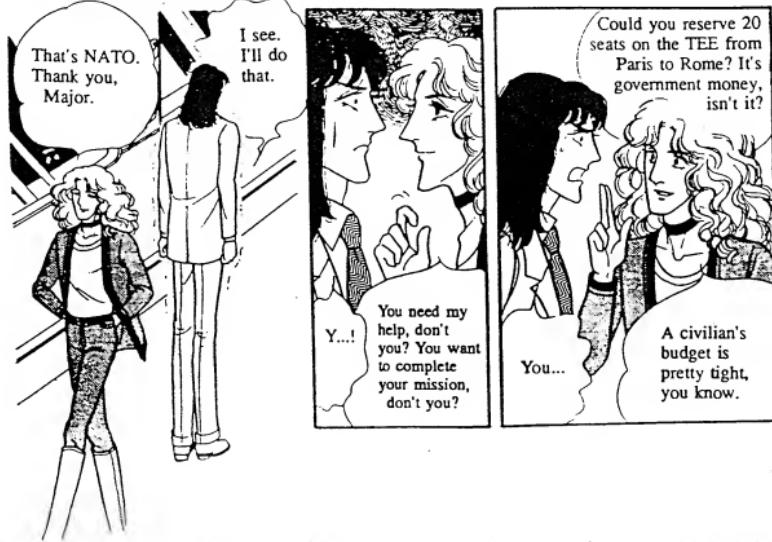
You know who, don't you, Eberbach ...?

This is a mission only YOU can do, Eberbach..

His name is...

In Chinese astrology, a cycle of extremely bad years in life.







Why do I have to worry about a subordinate's trousers, anyway? What a miserable administrative position!



...It's extremely unpleasant... What a job... but... it has to be done.



The Earl said he'd cooperate, but he's a very sneaky man.

Who the fuck'll trust him 'til he actually steals the secret from the Vatican Palace!

of the palace.

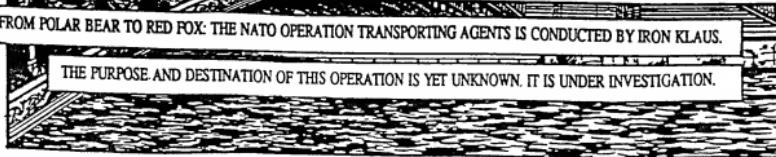
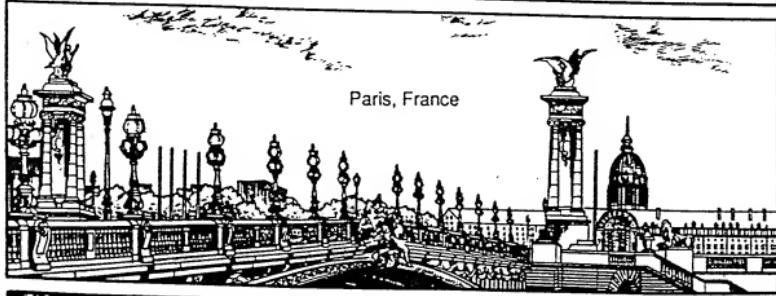
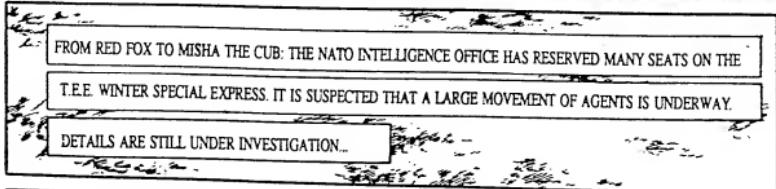
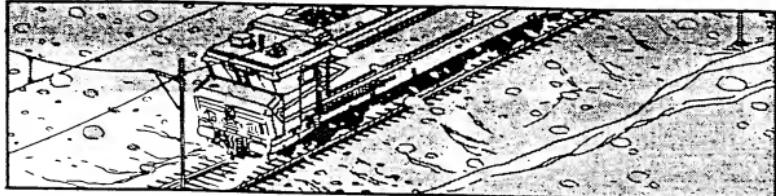
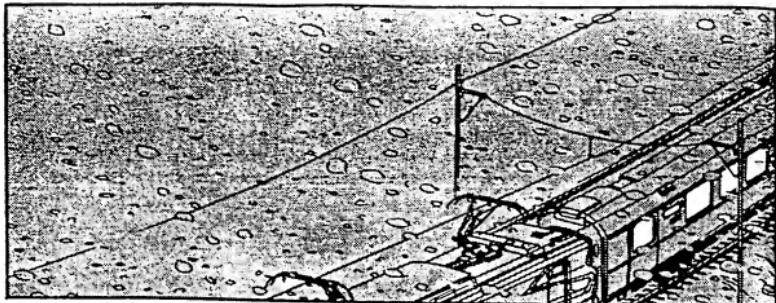


I'm going to take the blueprint you have



What I want is the contents of the vault.





FROM RED FOX TO MISHA THE CUB: YOUR MISSION IS TO INFILTRATE THE T.E.E., LEARN IRON KLAUS'S
MOVE AND HANDLE IT APPROPRIATELY.

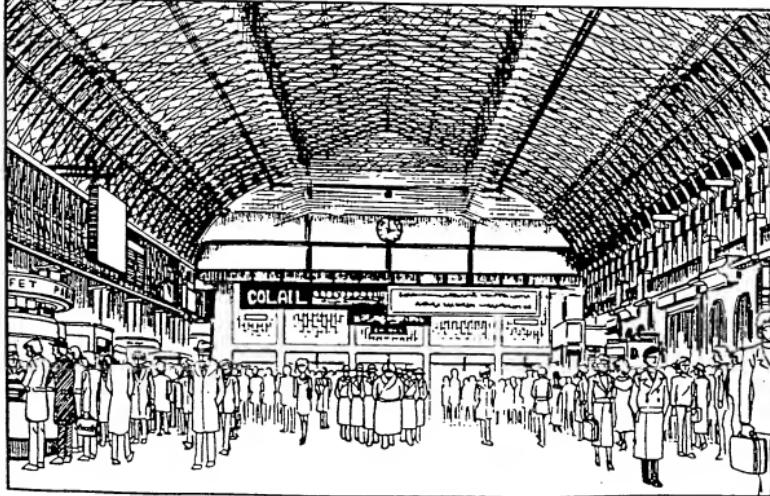
P.S. THE NAME OF THE T.E.E. WINTER SPECIAL IS HALLELUJAH EXPRESS.

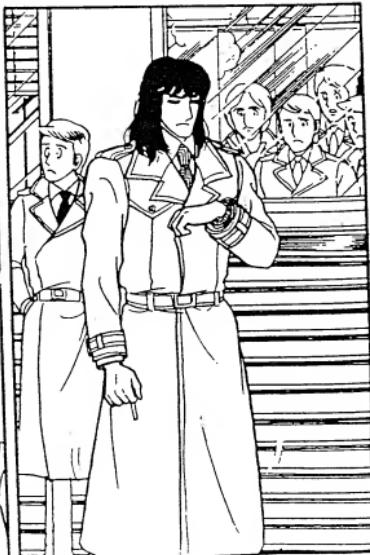
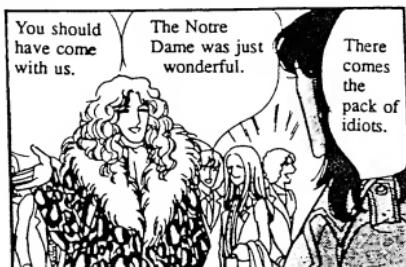
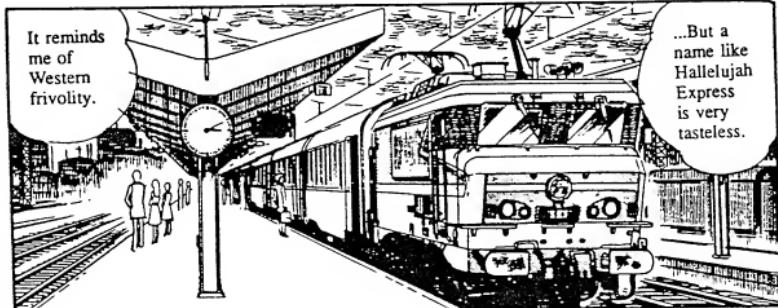
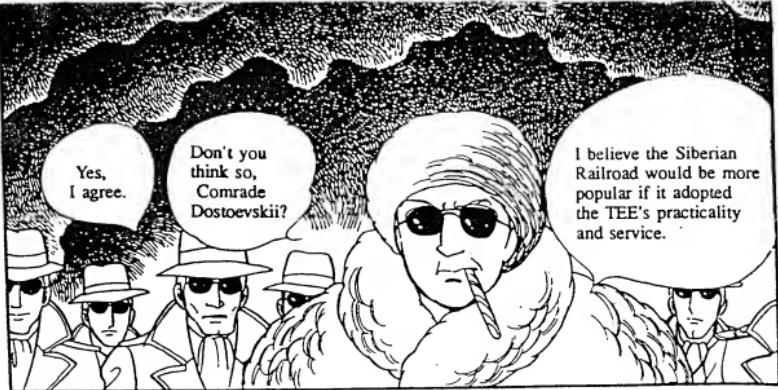


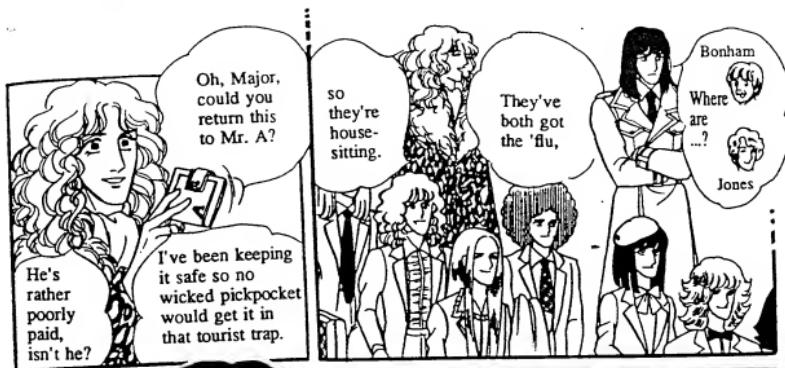
FROM MISHA THE CUB TO RED FOX: AM MOBILIZING IMMEDIATELY.

P.S. SUCCESS TO THE 1980 MOSCOW OLYMPICS!

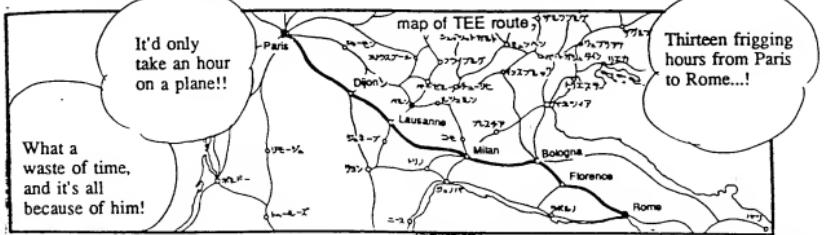
tromp tromp

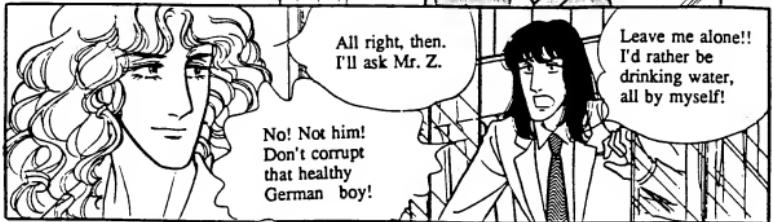


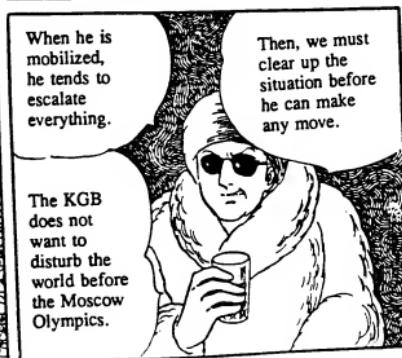
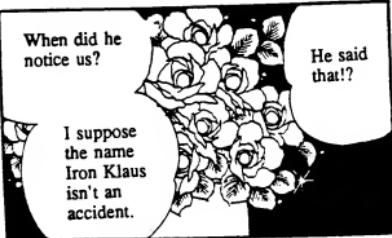
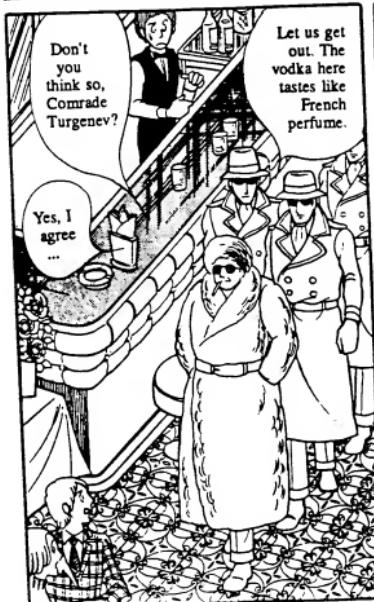
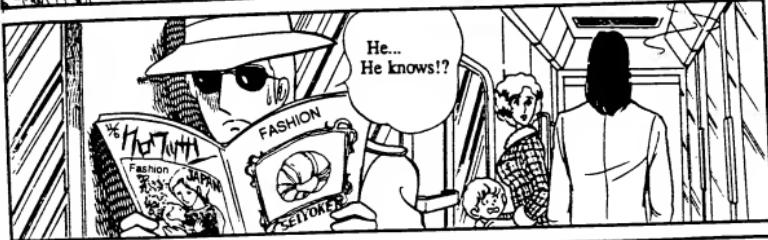




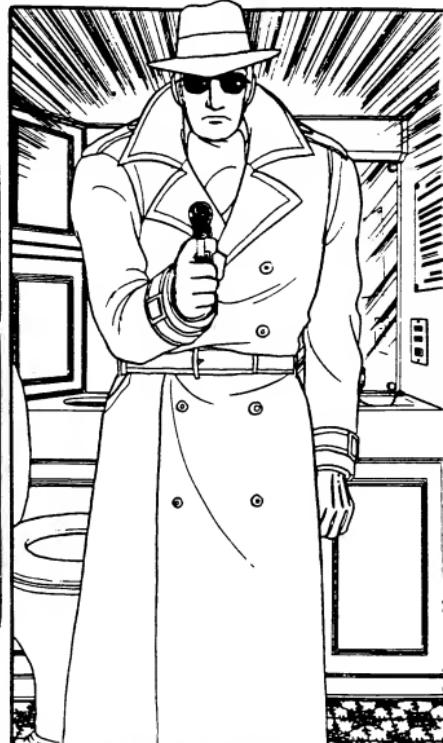
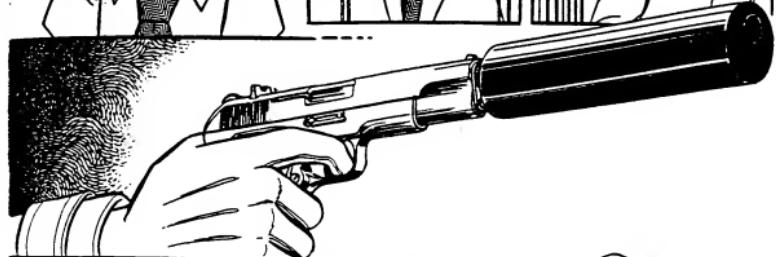


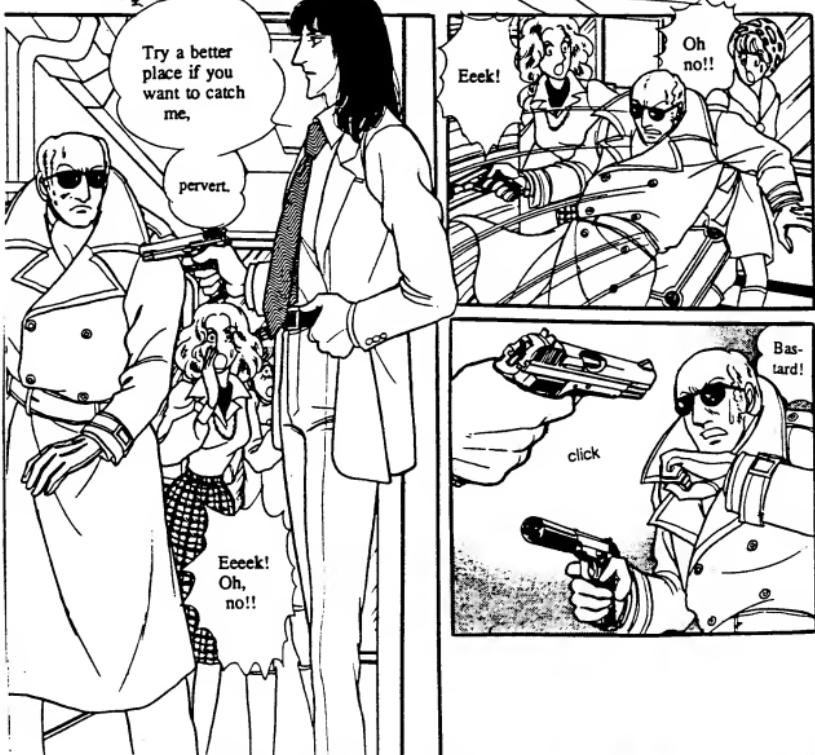




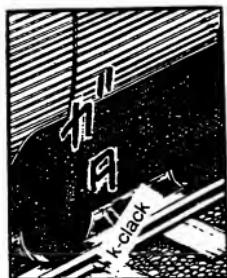


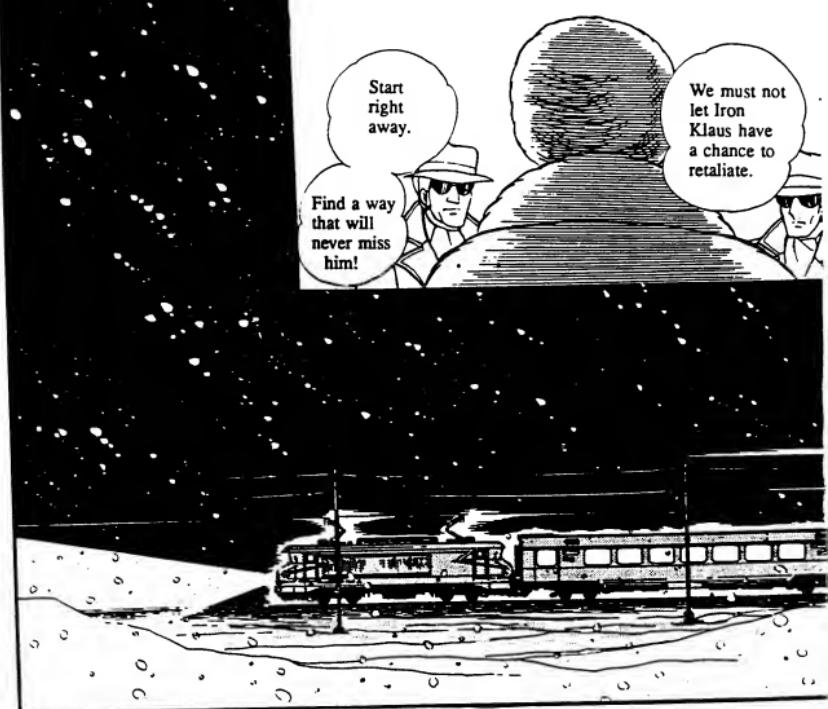






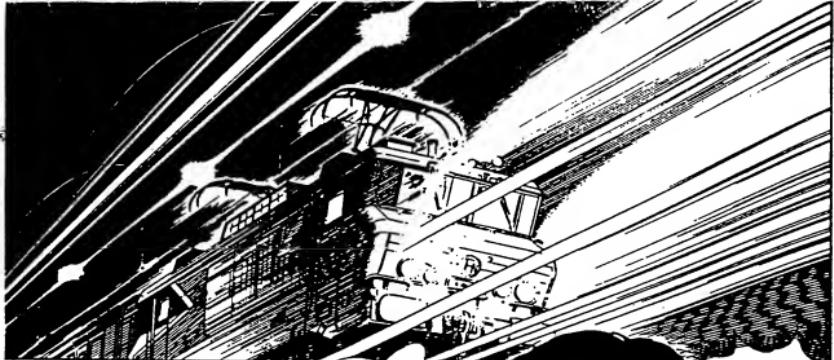












Does he really
think a scrooge's
a worthwhile
hostage? Idiot!

To my dear Major:
I'm "borrowing" the data for a
little while. I'll be back by the
time the train reaches Lausanne,
so don't worry. I'll leave a
hostage just in case. Please
don't be mean to him.

With love
Eriko

P.S. Do trust me...

Major!
The Earl
left a
letter!

I...
do?

Eh...
what
did...

He never forgets
his preferences
under any
circumstance!
How lewd!

I am
sorry,
sir.

Where
was this
letter
found?

Inside a
pocket
of my
trousers,
sir.

I TOLD you
to be careful
with your
trousers!!

Major!
All his
subordinates
are here!

Where did
the person
fall off!?

He's serious,
isn't he?

They see
very
relaxed

How did
the incident
happen!?

Dunno.

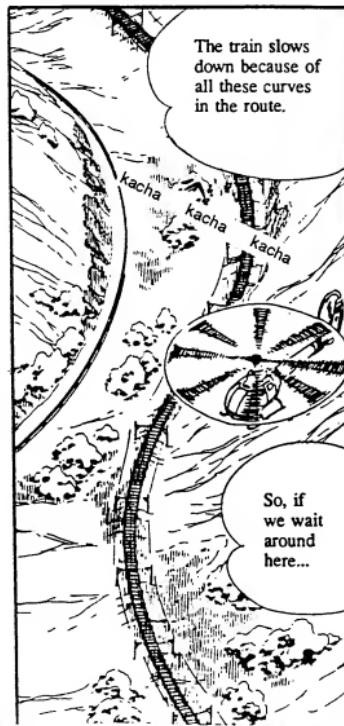
That
means...

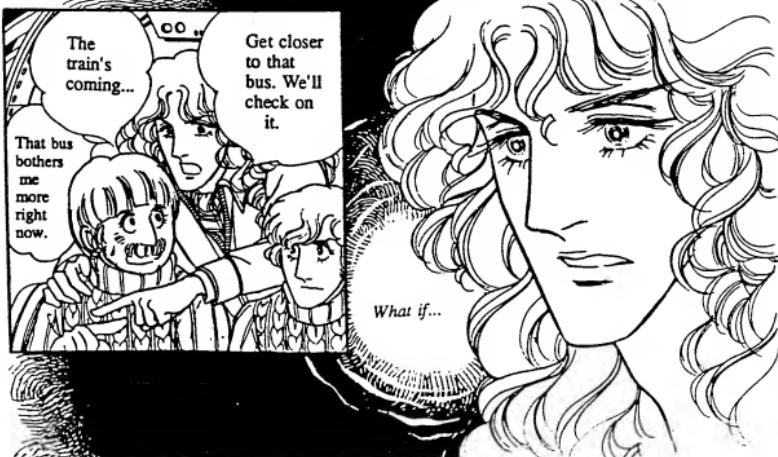
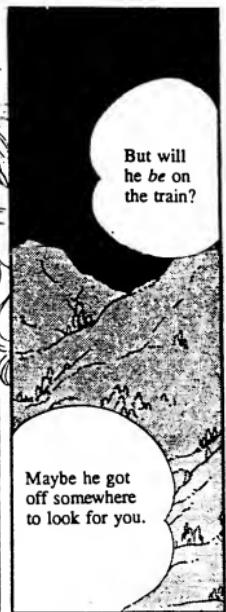
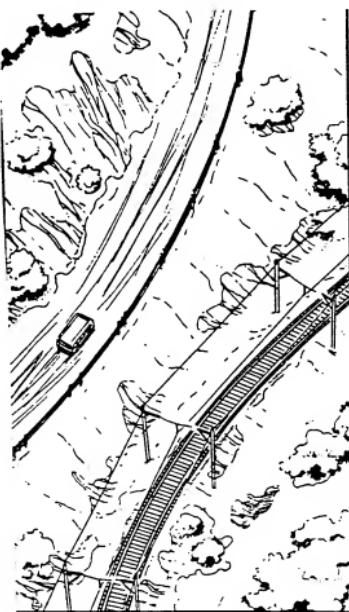


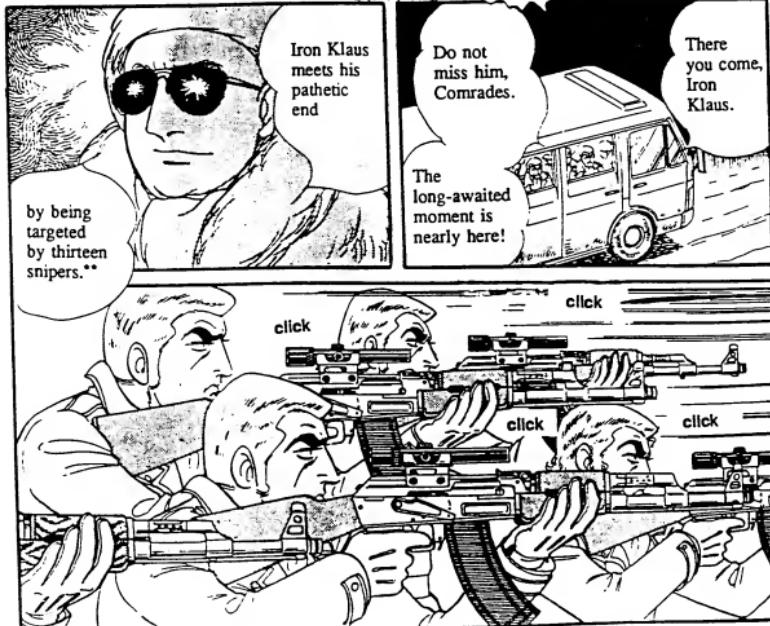
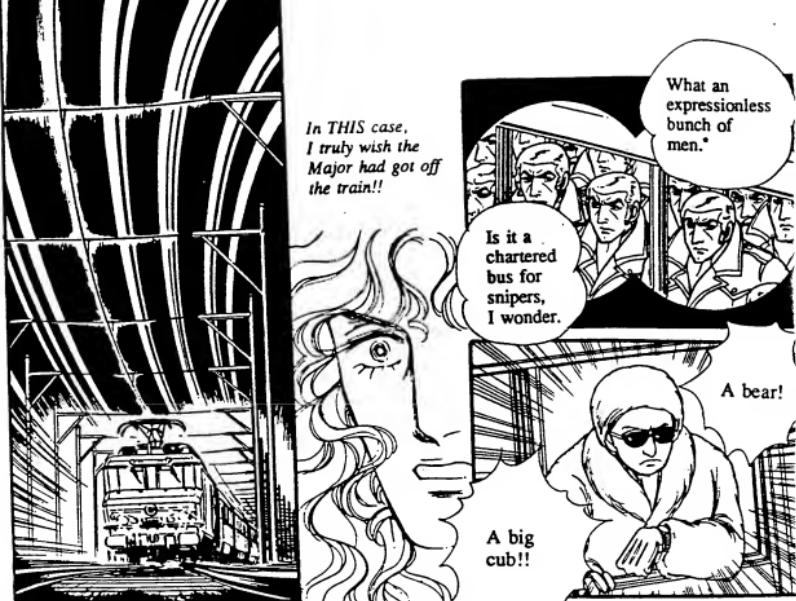


* ICPO is the abbreviation used in Europe for Interpol.



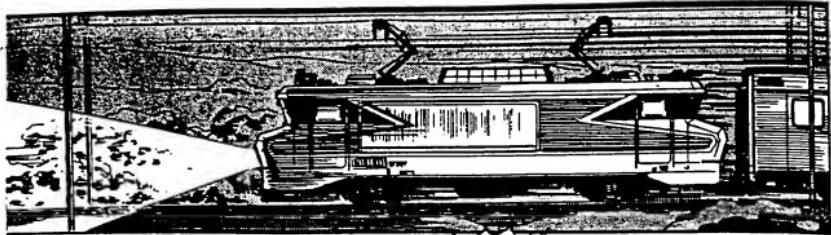






* Reference to the series *Gorgo Thirteen*, about an international sniper.

** Gorgo Thirteen is the name of one man who looks like the thirteen of them here.



Don't get distracted.

There's helicopter noise up there.

kacha kacha

Descend! Quicker!!

That's our blind spot! We can't see him!

Did you see the Major?!

How come it's so slow? Are they striking for a raise or something?

The route here winds a lot in these mountains, sir.

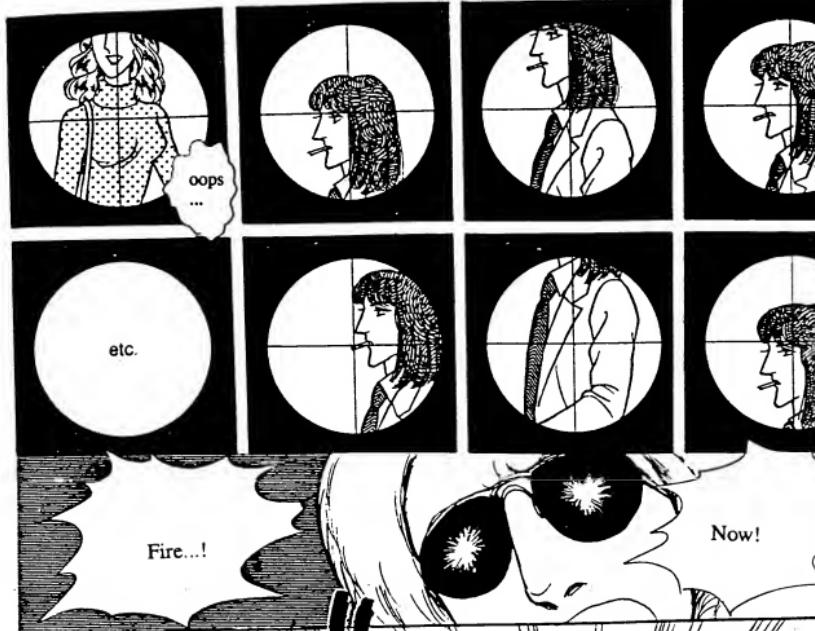
Watch only the train.

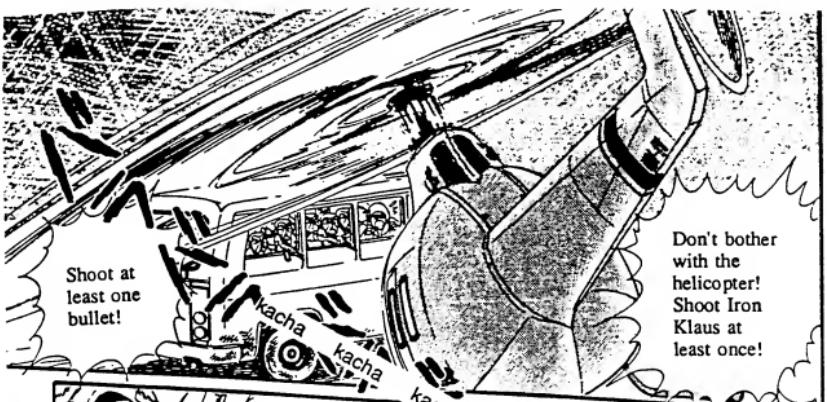
Don't miss even a moment of this chance!

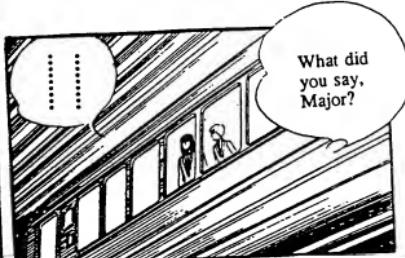
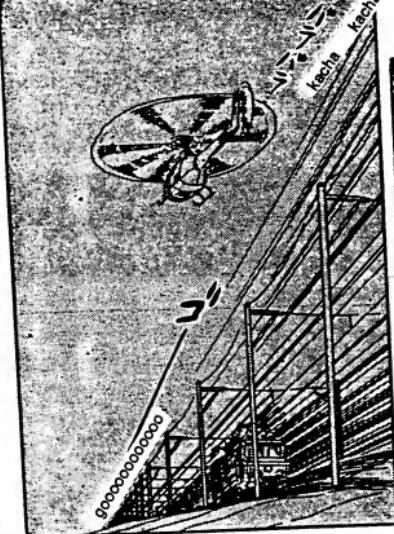
Look! There's Iron Klaus!

Will that bugger really come back?

Twenty minutes 'til Lausanne...

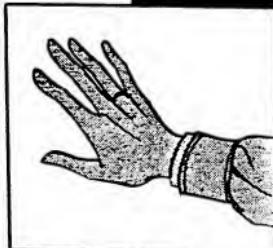
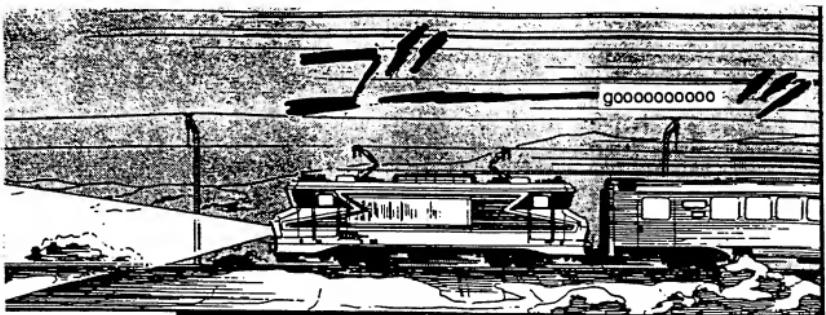






*Resignation is a foolish Western thought. I will smear him with his own blood whenever I can.
THAT is Misha the Cub's mission....*

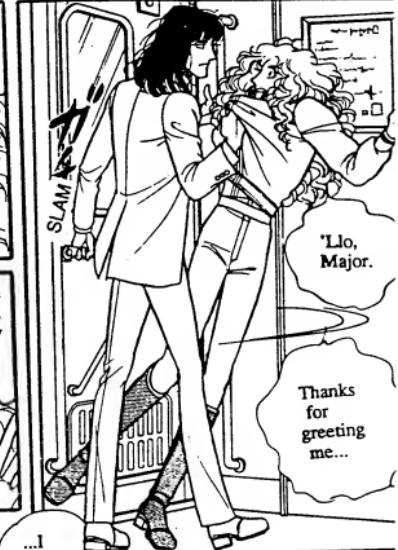




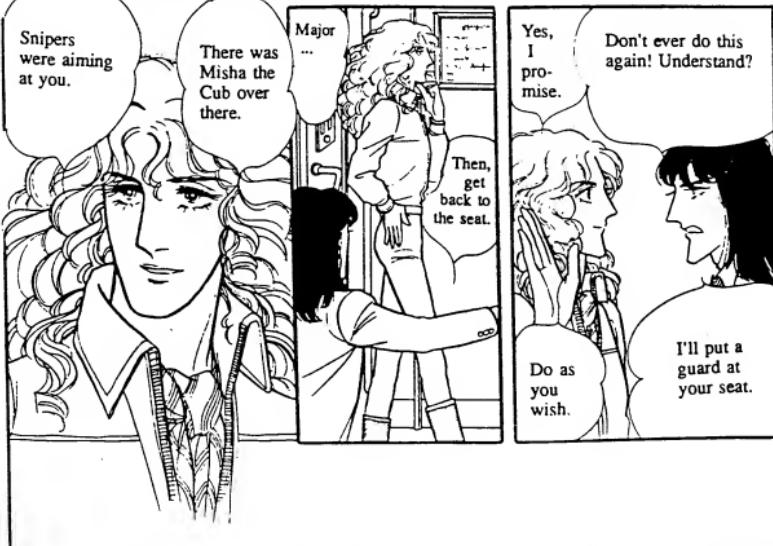
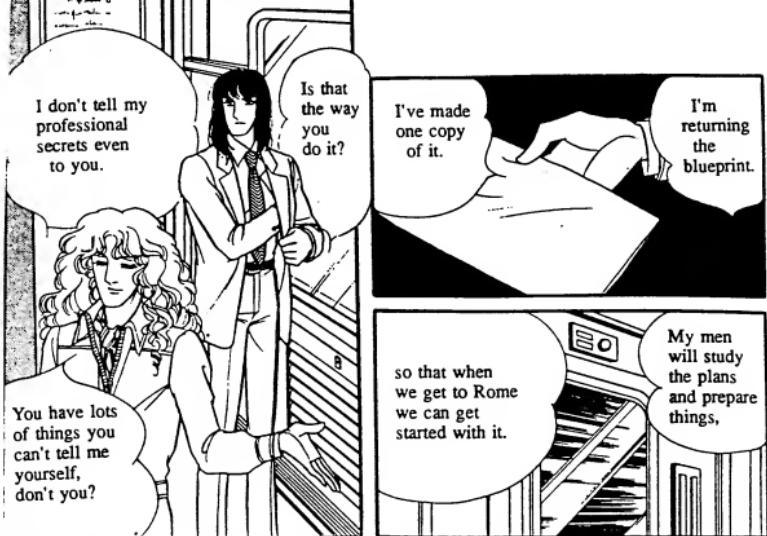
Ahhh!?

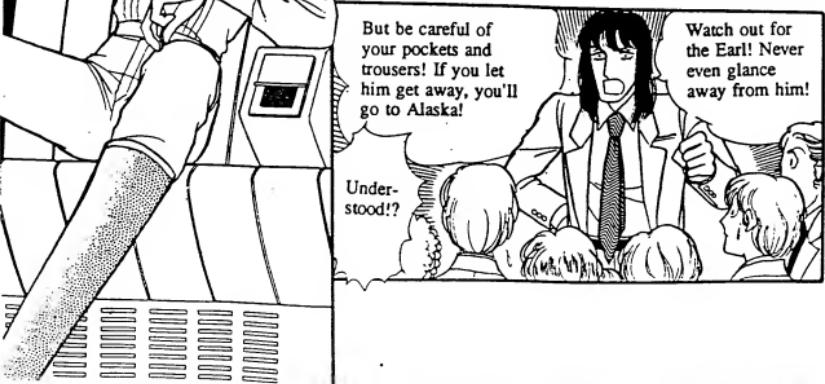
It was
very easy
to jump
off, but...

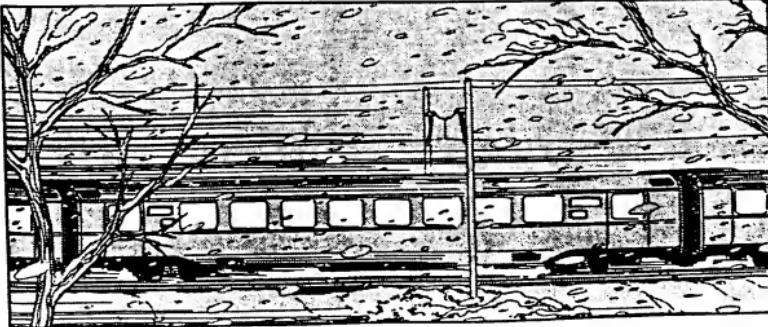
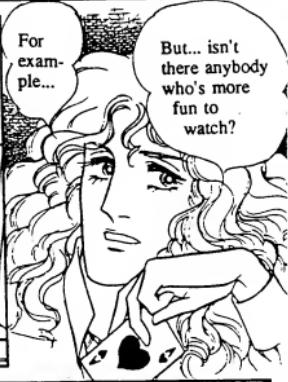






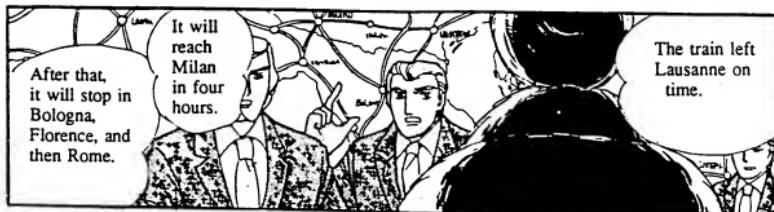






FROM RED FOX TO MISHA THE CUB: IRON KLAUS'S DESTINATION IS ROME. IT
IS SUSPECTED THAT NATO IS SCHEMING UP SOME VERY IMPORTANT OPERATION.

P.S. GOOD LUCK!



FROM POLAR BEAR TO MISHA THE CUB: THE MAN IN PHOTOGRAPH THAT YOU'VE INQUIRED ABOUT IS ART THIEF KNOWN AS EROICA. HE IS THE MAN WHO HELPED IRON KLAUS ARREST COMRADE MAIJA BULGAKOW

P.S. HOMOSEXUAL

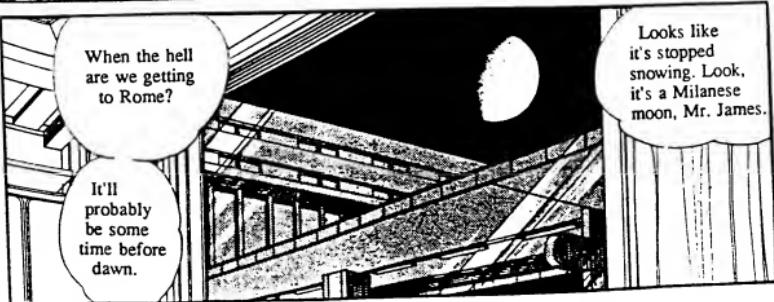
P.P.S. YOU NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT THE MOSCOW OLYMPICS ANY MORE

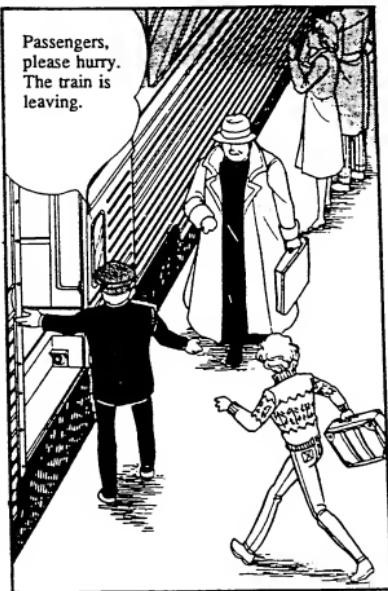
P.P.P.S. HURRAY, MISHA!



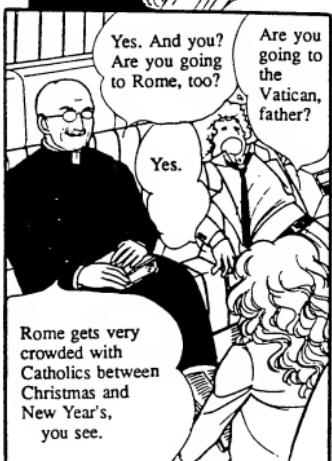
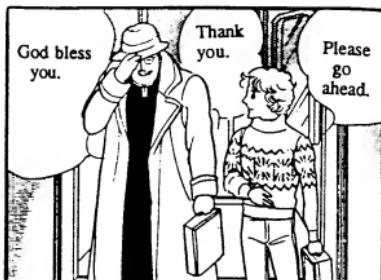


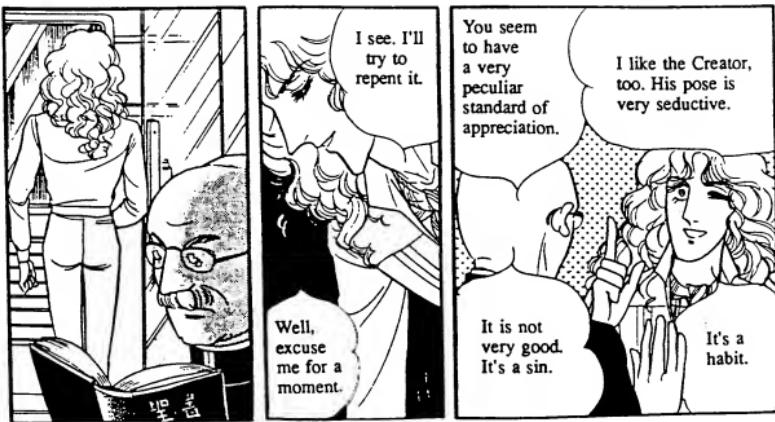
FROM MISHA THE CUB TO RED FOX AND POLAR BEAR: I WILL EXTINGUISH BOTH THE MORTAL
FOE IRON KLAUS AND EROICA THE PRODUCT OF DECADENT WESTERN CULTURE AT ANY COST.
P.S. THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT.

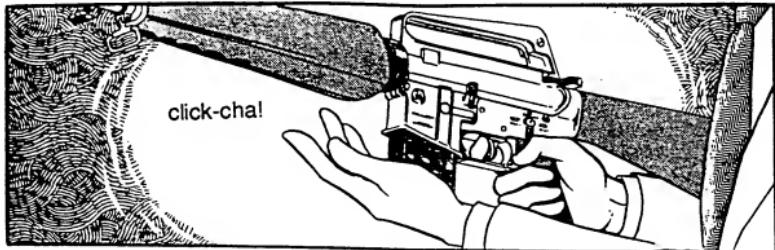








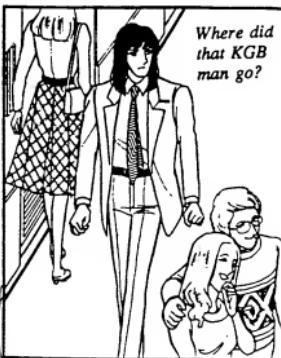








They've tried to shoot the train from the mountains. What's next, I wonder?



I'm going with you.
I'm worried about Spot.

At the engine at the very front.

Where's the luggage room?

Get out!
Move!
Scrooge!!

Which print do you think'll look good on the Earl?

Eeeeeek!

Where's
scrooge?

I really
don't
know,
sir.

WHAM

LANVIN

Major! You fool!!!
You've ruined
the Earl's
undies!

You deserved it
'cause you
didn't move,
idiot!!

LORD
GLORIA
!!!!

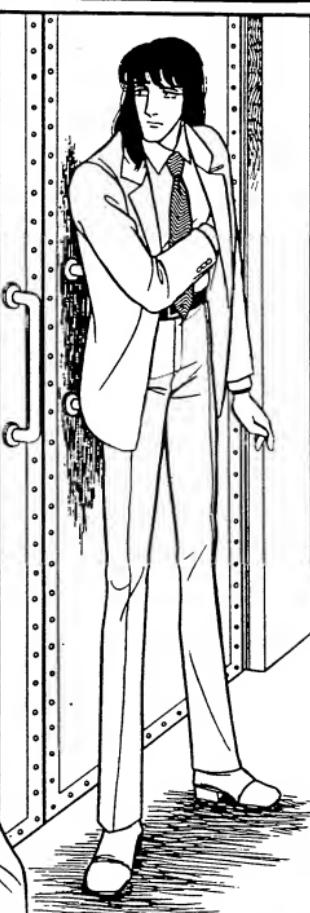
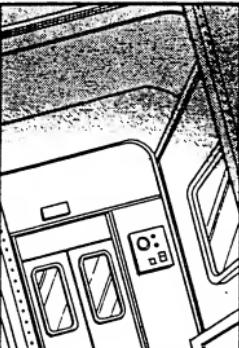
I'll tell this
to the Earl!!!

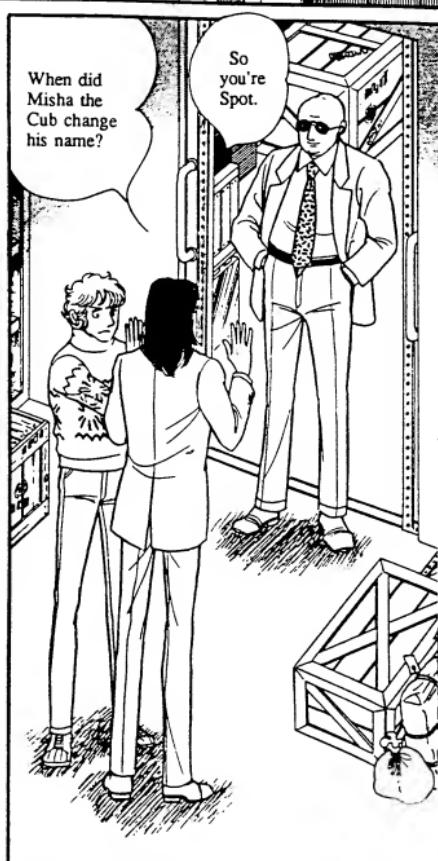
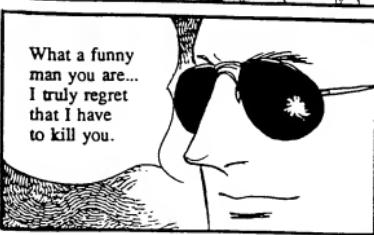
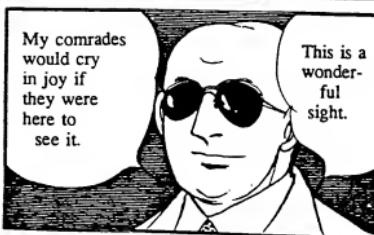
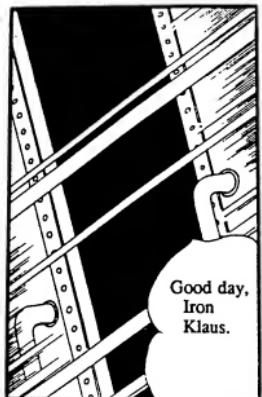
How
can he
run with
all that?

S' called
sheer
will-power...

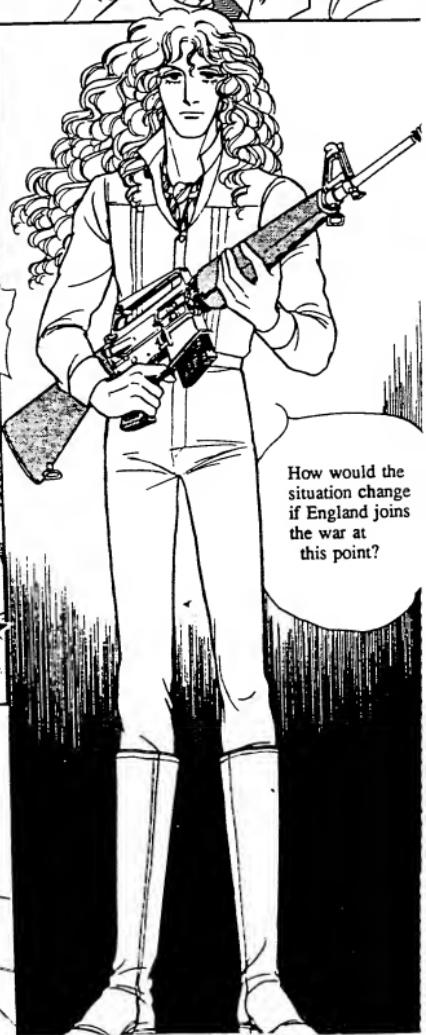
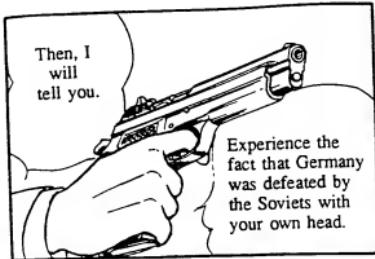
Owwww!

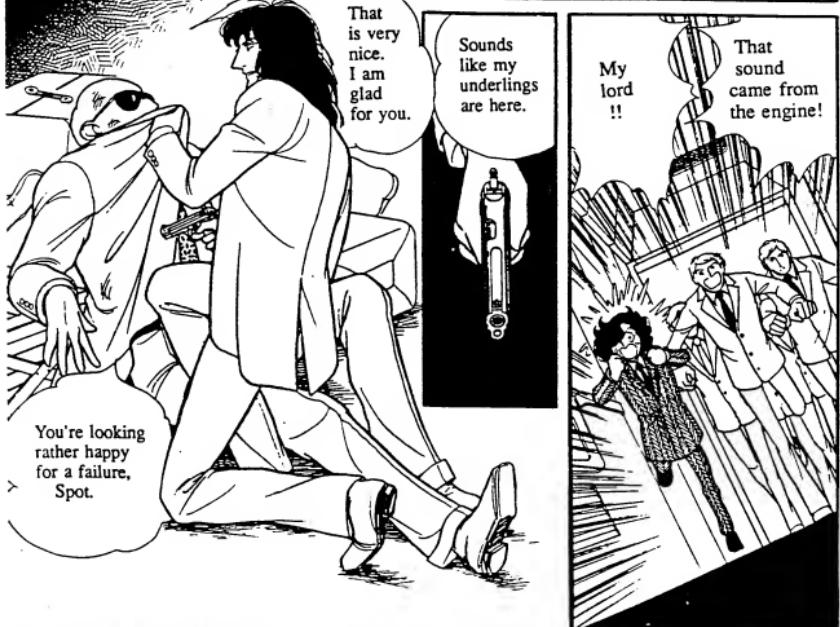
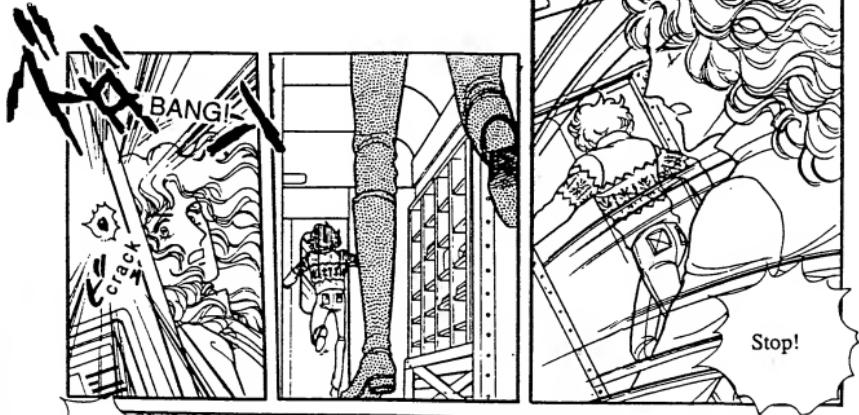


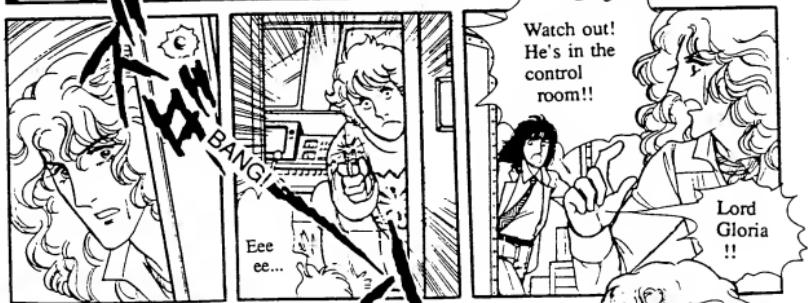


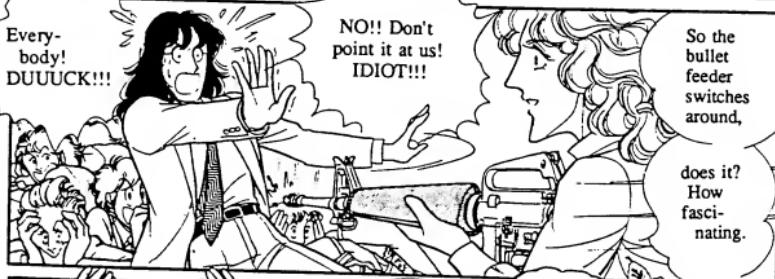
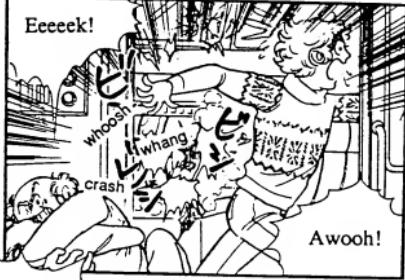


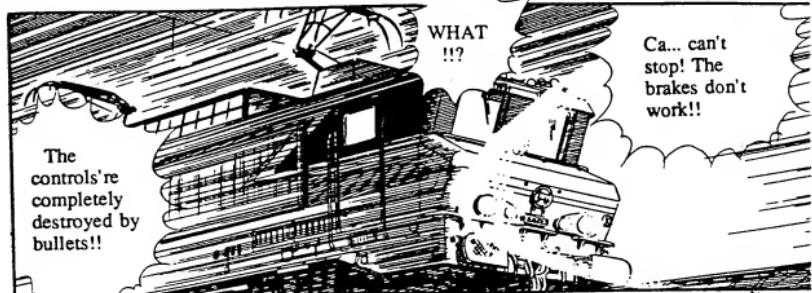














From
Hallelujah
Express
to Bologna
station!

Emergency!
The entire control
system has failed!
Shut off the power
transmission right
away!

This is Bologna
station! Describe
the situation!!

a train going at 150
kilometers per hour
doesn't stop completely
for at least...

Impossible!
Even if we
shut off
the power,

Stop this
train in
one minute!!
Understand??

No time
for that!

Shut up!
Do something
NOW!!

Look.
Our gravesite
is beckoning
the train...

It is no
use, Major.

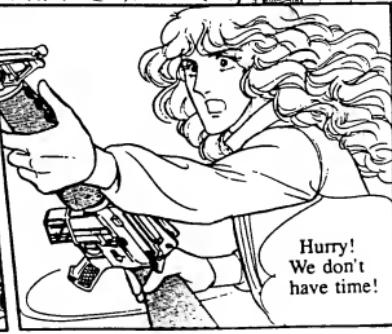
Woooooooooo



At 11:05 pm
when this
train passes,
it will go off.

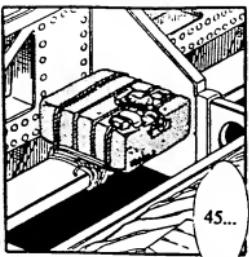
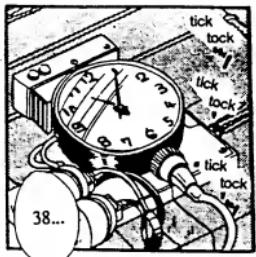
The time bomb
is set at the
center of
the bridge.

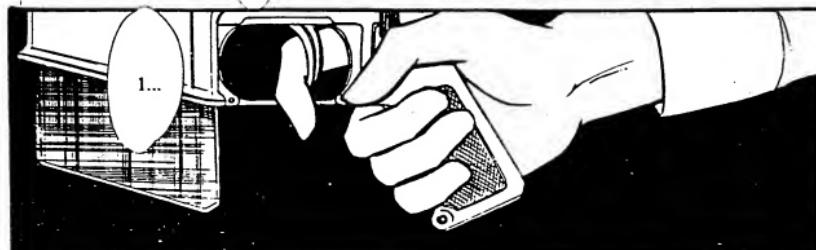
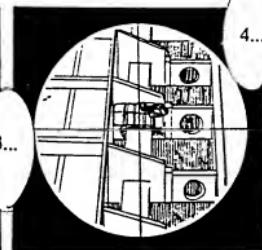
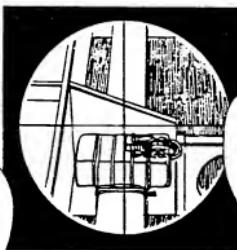
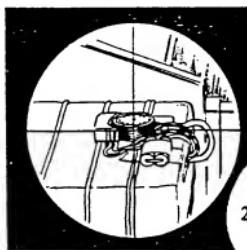
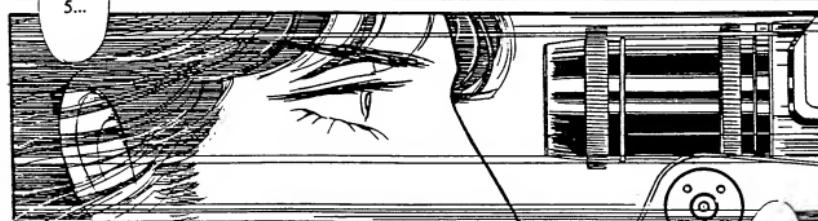


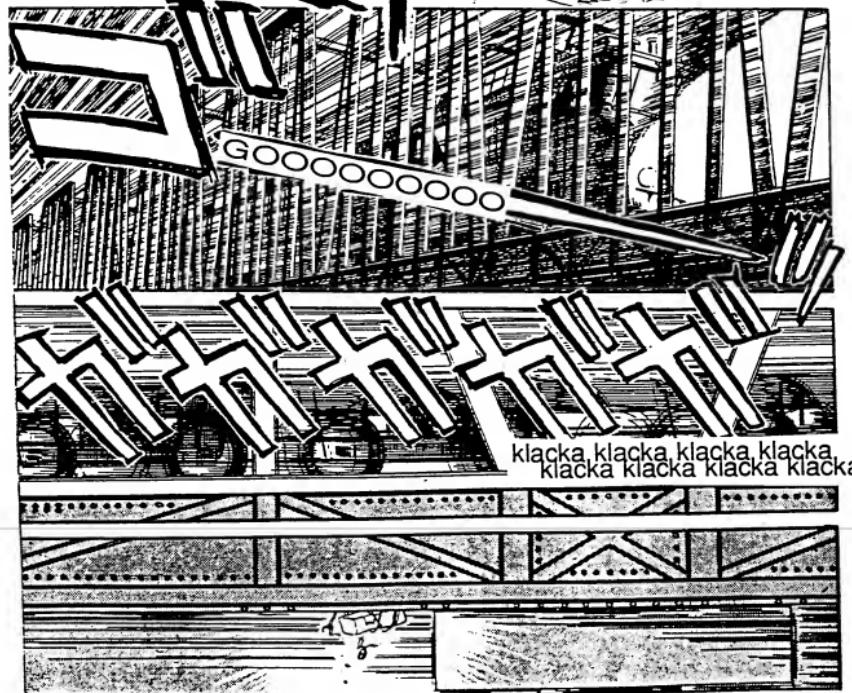




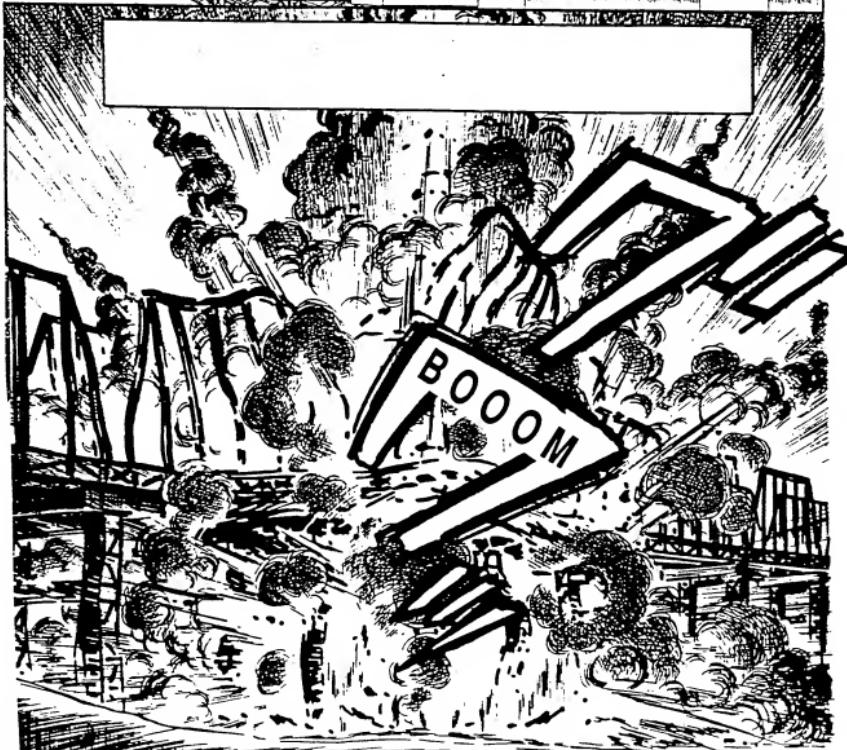
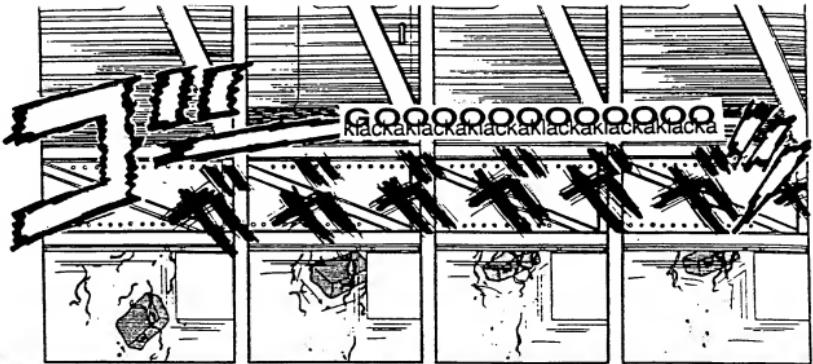




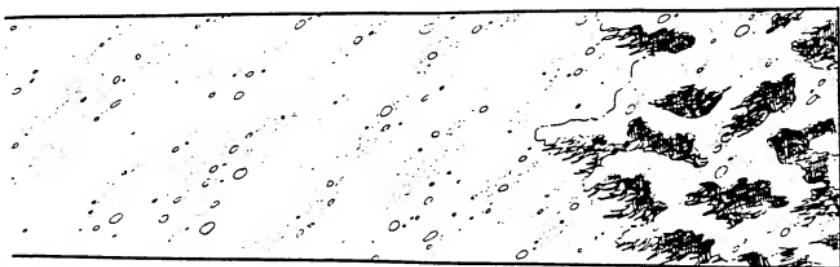














Hallelujah!!



He WAS a Christ after all... bearing a double cross and saving the lives of so many... and so hopelessly clean and abstinent...

